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LITERATURE.

Sermons. By Mark Pattison. (Macmillan.) (Second Notice.)

A JUST appreciation—rarer than now—of the scope and consequences of the scientific epoch of 1859 inspires the two series of academical lectures which commenced two years later. The course upon Liberal Education opens with the universal antagonism of the individual and the type in moral developments as in material organisms. Education, no less than government, must tend to favour one; usually the latter, namely, orthodox uniformity. Plato's *Republic* is cited in proof of the selfish elements in the parental educating instinct of society. But how much, we might ask, does education owe to-day to zeal in enlisting young recruits for our own party; how much to fear for our throats and consols? This school teaching is referred to later on (Lec. vii., 104–10), and in clear terms. It must be entirely passive, receptive, acquisitive and practical. Society must inculcate whatever it thinks the best; which means, I suppose, that the majority of the electoral mob must decide what is best, and enforce it. As there cannot be two bests, an iron uniformity ensues. But culture, Pattison thought, is an affair of college, not of school. True, if school is to end in college. For millions it does not. They are our rulers. They are being taught things, not to think. Teach them all the same things, and those the very best, when they come to think (as they will this month), they will not think uniformly, but erratically—in fact, just anyhow. Thus you do not even attain your stable uniformity after all: your consols are no safer. Teach them how to think, give them culture, and, with due allowance for self-interest, idiosyncrasy and the rest, they will virtually agree. At least, you will have intelligent variation based on a common method instead of anomalous aberration from a low type. Pattison's views on this subject (here obscurely hinted, but which came out in private discussions) I have always keenly regretted. Intent on fanning the flickering flame of University Education, he was willing to carry the sacred fire to kindle humbler altars, but that was all. Admitting that "mental enlargement should be the equal right of all; that it is in no mystical connexion with the learned languages—it requires very few books, and the observation of quite common things" (p. 66)—he could hardly conceive it apart from academical forms. The liberal culture was no heritage for hinds and craftsmen. One sees, of course, that, given our English hierarchies of ascending rank, wealth, and leisure, it is well to supplement them with a hierarchy of education, better still to make the strata

of all four coincide. Though he sanctioned my view that our only hope is a recovery of human contentment, our only progress development within a class, and not promotion to a higher, so overpowering was his conviction of what he called the vast sum of English brutality, that he could see no hope for the many who could not emerge into the higher sphere of the few. Logically, this involves the vulgar, the almost universal, error that the working classes are to be raised by founding scholarships to steal away their best boys and transform them into college gentlemen. The causes of his apparent indifference are not far to seek. Pattison was an intellectual aristocrat. His benevolence and straightforwardness inspired familiarity rather than awe in poor people; they liked and respected him as "a very curious gentleman"; but he could no more enter into their minds or mentally appreciate them than he could the passman. Admitting that the ambitious honourman, the *Graeculus esuriens*, was hopeless, he failed to see that in the rich, leisured, unbiased, able-bodied passman lay the virgin soil in which his theories might have taken root. The joyful young barbarian was a "sordid animal," just as the sleepy old parson was a "wretched crétin." He believed it. A shy nature, a self-concentrated life, some contemptuous indifference perhaps, precluded his studying the latent powers of inferior minds—an indispensable study, I think, for all who would train as well as teach. Otherwise he might have gathered round him a young band of disinterested workers, and started a movement which would have sapped the foundations both of examinations and athletics.

To return. With this practical teaching of what is dominant in each age—theology, letters, or science—he contrasts with impressive eloquence the higher education, the training and cultivation of the individual mind. He pleads for the old classical curriculum, not on the ground of utility, but as a symbol of great aims. Some of us who have almost forgotten our little Latin and less Greek will be found not less strenuous in supporting the one badge which distinguishes the university from a fortuitous agglomeration of training schools and technical colleges. Such timid hope as he here expresses of a revival of the true academical spirit was short-lived. He lived to see the reforms he had been among the first to agitate, and the original research bubble he had innocently sanctioned, recoil upon his cherished ideals—a vast temple of Janus reared for the celebration of the examination mysteries, a suburb peopled by its hierophants, and the Academia resounding with "brutal games." The future alone can justify or condemn his despondency. *Multi pertransibunt et augebitur scientia*—scarcely *sapientia*. High flights in speculation, brilliant scientific discoveries, plodding acquisition of facts, feverish assimilation of opinions, cannot animate a university, but the regular circulation of its vital fluids—the gentle spirit, the philosophic temper, the scientific habit—through all its members, great and small. If that circulation be impeded the head becomes over-heated, and the feet grow cold. Wherein is an allegory.

In the fourth lecture the inquiry is carried

up into a higher sphere—what he calls the ascetic element in the liberal education, as morally identical with early monastic asceticism. This view of the intimate relations of *ἀσκησις* and *φιλοσοφία* is doubtless original; probably it is equally sound. Further (Lec. v.), the philosophical and ascetic processes—the mental training and the moral discipline—are internal, not external. The student has now to think, to discover, to create for himself, to apply Baconian method in the elimination of error. The office of the educator is but to stimulate, to suggest methods, and to remove hindrances. The final stage is a free growth on prepared soil. Both Catholic and Positivist theories are identically opposed to this view: their plan, inculcation of dogma—their object, the supremacy of opinions—their attitude, distrust of the individual intellect. Conscience and duty prescribe a truculent abuse of the teacher's opportunity, as one mischievous writer avows, "treading in the truth day by day into the ready memory, and wedging and tightening it into the expanding reason." Education, however, has less to fear from these parties than from the wide-reaching forces—authoritative ignorance and debased animalism—of which they are the respectable types. The private-adventure proselytism which the author reproved has been succeeded by avowedly propagandist institutions. Another sectarian college is just announced. In fairness we must have all, or none. Put up the student-mind to auction and all the proselytisers will flock to the bidding. Useless to point out that thus they surrender the undoubted advantages of the seminary—perfect discipline and harmonious teaching untroubled by opposition—without in any way profiting by the free academical atmosphere; they do not think so. But with the utmost stretch of respectful sympathy for zeal like theirs, we cannot cease to insist that such institutions, secularist or religious—however admirable elsewhere—are here an intrusion and a menace; that they should have—and indeed can have—no place or lot within an university, since by their mere recognition it ceases to be an university at all.

The three lectures on the attitude of the Church towards philosophy must be treated together, their historical plan being somewhat involved. Briefly it is this. Philosophy confined to the few, and couched in a learned language, did not at first come in contact with the Church, which had to deal with the many *δαιοδαίμονόστεροι*, in a peculiarly religious and superstitious period. (This point is usually misrepresented.) By them, and their tools, the Caesars, it was persecuted. The second century (the whole passage is valuable) brought the "victory of moral ideas." Philosophy, long sulking in ascetic seclusion, now assumes a philanthropic mission, comes into contact with the Church, and is welcomed (1) as anti-idolatrous, (2) as unitarian, (3) as moral. The Church recognises itself in the eclectic phase of philosophy, "the rational residuum of centuries of Greek mental activity." However the fathers explain it, the fact remains that reason and faith were once reconciled, and are therefore reconcilable. This fusion of thought, and even of literature, is again disintegrated, to reappear once more in the scholastic system—

truly philosophical because universal in scope. Then the revolt of Humanism, soon paralysed by Protestantism. The natural theology of the eighteenth century—especially Leibnitz's *Theodicea*—framed to embrace the Newtonian Cosmos, marks the third epoch (pp. 178-182 and 202-206). Sapped by the obscurantism of the Evangelical and Catholic movements (here mercilessly analysed), this has now broken down in face of new discoveries and a vaster Cosmos. The remedy hinted at is a new *Theodicea*.

This thin abstract of an abstract is doubtless inadequate, possibly inaccurate. A few comments. The reduction of the moral principles of the early plebeian church to the martyr-spirit seems to me questionable. The necessary evasion of the ominous silence of Josephus by a forged interpolation might well have been cited side by side with the "exitiabilis superstitio" of Tacitus in proof of contemporary ignorance of the Gospel events. It has been suggested to me that Pattison goes too far in making Dio Chrysostom the "first Greek writer who had pronounced the principle of slavery to be contrary to the law of nature." Taking "principle" in the widest sense to include the cases of captives and degraded aborigines, I venture—under correction—to regard any earlier protest (if such exists) on behalf of Aristotle's *φύσει δοῦλοι*, as a personal and rhetorical eccentricity. Again, the accurate terminology of the schoolmen is contrasted with "the slipshod and intangible metaphor which the revival of classical learning has introduced." Whereupon I note with pleasure that in this book there are fewer metaphors than pages. Pattison has exaggerated the formal hostility of the Church towards science. A very able scientific assailant has admitted that "the question of the earth's motion was the single point in which orthodoxy came into real contact with science." Too much is here made of the "astronomy which the Church had striven to crush as heresy." It merely used the Ptolemeian system until the astronomers had quite agreed on a better. Perhaps it waited too long. Even so that was better than giving its imprimatur in succession to every new theory from Descartes' vortices to Byrne's algebraical demonstration of the Athanasian Creed. Besides, the emendations of Copernicus (merely reducing it from a dogmatic law to a disputable hypothesis), as well as the Galileo affair, were not the work of the Church, but of a faction of the Inquisition.

Pattison is, of course, most at home in the eighteenth century. Science in the seventeenth had been humbly apologetic. Its close saw an impetus of the human mind (not less marked, we may add, than the Renaissance) which at first ran into scepticism. But the aspirations of Locke soon took definite form under Leibnitz. Here we expect and we find an indulgent partiality. Granted the sublimity of Leibnitz's conception of the Unity of Truth, and his inference of spiritual and moral from material laws, we must, I think, ask what light his sophistical theory of the Pre-established Harmony throws upon his method? Again, no doubt, the old rational theology was rejected by the Evangelical as unedifying and by the Catholic as superfluous; but surely that is not all. They uncon-

siously revolted against its irreligion. Quite apart from late scientific proofs of bungling and pretence-work (Pattison would hardly have denied their force), the Great Artificer, puffed, petronised, excused, and defended by Butler, is a degradation of the Deity. And may not much of the spiritual palsy of the eighteenth century be indirectly traced to the debasing methods and smug, well-beneficed tone of the Evidential rabbis? We are told (p. 180) that "the popular manuals of Butler and Paley are part of the heritage of all cultivated men," but (p. 198) that they are "a dead letter" and "completely obsolete." In truth, the *Theodicea* has evaporated with its "divine artisan." Its spirit, Pattison trusted, might be revived in a new synthesis of science and faith.

Such hope is common to all theologians. This one stands nearly alone in basing its realisation upon loyalty to reason, in his contemptuous repudiation of the nebulous evasions and tortuous manipulations of the popular Broad school. "The questions must be fairly faced," if faced at all. In truth, at this juncture the attitude of the clergy is far more important than the strength or weakness of their case. What is it? Let us hear them in council. The Church Congress discusses "the intellectual trials of the spiritual life" (note the peculiar phrasing throughout). One speaker dwells on "the trials which beset this life through the side of the intellect," the "trial which distressed many when confronted by the uniformity of Nature," the "black philosophy," also the "backward philosophy which is a great trial." Another pronounces that "the intellectual man is not a competent judge of spiritual things, being rather hampered by special hindrances, from which he should seek relief by patience and prayer"; again, "the signal trap of our time is the triumph of the so-called [this curious epithet is a favourite] physical sciences." Another mourns that "spiritual facts seem so dim, vague, and cloudy compared to material facts"; "another difficulty arises from the habit of over-indulgence in intellectual curiosity"—the cure is "to remember that we were meant to be under the conditions of unsatisfied knowledge, that we were meant to be under the discipline of ignorance." So the discussion proceeds. Next week an exegetical prelate, charging upon "the alleged discoveries of science," advises us "to begin by postulating the truths of religion, and then contrast with them the truths which science claims to have established." This partial paralysis of reason upon a single subject extends to laymen, even those whose genius and principles are above criticism. Mr. Gladstone, in his article of yesterday, first challenges, and then evades, argument. He gravely asserts that modern science has pronounced the Scriptural order of creation—viz., (1) the water population, (2) that of the air, (3) that of the land, (4) man—a "demonstrated conclusion and established fact." No proof being offered, we assume that some one has somewhere said something which somehow by rhetorical manipulation can sanction the grouping, for example, under one stage of development of the whole varied water-population from protoplasm to mermaids. But to the triumphant argument that the author of Genesis could

never have guessed this order, and so his knowledge must be divine, the obvious answer is that the order, even if right, is clearly the order of ignorance, of childish intuition—in fact, the order in which any sharp child would place them if asked; the order of the responsive sympathy of pets, of their relative companionableness, and so of their consanguinity to man. This, by the way—my point is that after this show of argument the author instantly retires through the dust-cloud of rhetoric to his entrenchments, whence he discharges an effective peroration appealing directly to sentiment, opportunism, and unreason.

These instances may tend to show whether we are really "facing the question." To plead, as Pattison did, for fair and candid reasoning is to be accused of bias by both sides; but this little book should shake the complacency of the most complacent unreasoner. We may refuse to argue, we may simply claim to believe. Thus, if we may hardly challenge respect, at least we shall not merit contempt as men who accept a hazardous arbitration with the deliberate intention of repudiating it. To that illustrious Church which Mark Pattison adorned his warning is of special force. An open rupture with science must be her death-warrant. For just as in the onward march of democracy, liberal philosophy and culture must be driven perforce into the trenches of conservatism, so—paradox as it may seem—the Church of England may live to find her most strenuous and powerful supporters in those who, caring nothing for her dogmas, will venerate her as the historic guardian of a reasoned faith and sober practice, and as the effectual—the only—bulwark against the inundation of wrangling sects and low superstitions. E. PURCELL.

The Brontë Family. With special reference to Patrick Branwell Brontë. By Francis A. Leyland. In 2 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

"I thought," said a friend who saw this book lying upon my table, "that everything had been written about the Brontës that could possibly be written." The possibilities of literary production are, as the much-enduring reviewer is well aware, an unknown quantity; but as regards Brontë biography there has probably been a general opinion that these possibilities were exhausted, and that Miss Robinson, whose charming memoir of Emily Brontë supplemented the previous works of Mrs. Gaskell and Mr. Wemyss Reid, had really said the last word. The general opinion is now proved to be erroneous. Mr. Leyland has a later word still, and as this later word flatly contradicts most of the earlier ones, I fear that the end is not yet.

I should not, perhaps, use the word "fear," for any new information concerning this wonderful family is of real and permanent interest; and we have reason to be grateful to Mr. Leyland, not only for the facts which he has himself contributed, but for any additional facts which may now be brought forward by those whose estimate differs from his own. The nature of his book is accurately described by its title. It deals with the whole Brontë family, and gives much new and interesting information concerning Mr.

and Mrs. Brontë and their six children; but it is mainly important as an attempt to set in a new light the character of Branwell Brontë, who has been treated by all previous writers with an emphatic *consensus* of condemnation. Still, though Branwell is the centre of interest, there is another member of the family who, in Mr. Leyland's opinion, has been treated with marked injustice by the biographers, and a word or two must be said concerning the chapters which treat of the Rev. Patrick Brontë. Mrs. Gaskell, in the first edition of her *Life of Charlotte Brontë*, drew a picture of Charlotte's father so extremely unpleasant that it may fairly be called repulsive; and though, in later editions, the biographer withdrew certain specific charges which she found could not be sustained, a definitely disagreeable impression had been stamped upon the mind of the reading public, and it could not be effaced by the mere silent suppression of this or that libellous anecdote. Substance and apparent credibility have gradually been given to a Brontë legend, the hero of which is an old man, stern, selfish, and tyrannical, an unkind husband, and an unfatherly father, whose fits of rage, in which he was wont to burn or otherwise destroy the clothes of his wife and daughters, seemed, in a man of culture and education, more like exhibitions of madness than of ordinary passion.

If Mr. Leyland had done nothing more, he would, by discrediting this legend, have earned the gratitude of those who would like to think well rather than ill of Charlotte Brontë's father, to whom it is clear that she was ardently attached. The positive statements round which the legend accreted itself were made to Mrs. Gaskell by a person whom she described as "a good old woman," and who was accepted as an authority because she had nursed Mrs. Brontë in her illness. Her goodness, if it existed anywhere save in the biographer's charitable imagination, must have been acquired subsequent to the time of her leaving the Brontë household. Mr. Leyland writes:

"It is known that, whatever good qualities this person may be supposed to have had, her conscientiousness and rectitude, at least, were not of the first order, and she was detected in proceedings which caused Mr. Brontë to dismiss her at once. With the double effect of explaining her dismissal and injuring Mr. Brontë, this person gave an account of his temper and conduct, embellished with the stories which I have quoted from the first edition of the *Life of Charlotte*, to a minister of the place, and it was in this way that Mrs. Gaskell became acquainted with her and them."

Mr. Leyland goes on to give some rebutting evidence which is of more positive value than this destructive criticism, but for which I have not space here. His witness, Nancy Garrs, who was the faithful servant of the Brontës during the whole time of their residence at Haworth, and who still survives, gives a version of one of the libellous stories which puts an entirely different complexion upon it; meets the others with a point blank denial; and speaks of Mr. Brontë as a most affectionate husband, an affectionate father, and a kind master, adding, "he was not of a violent temper at all; quite the reverse." If a man be not a hero to an ordinary respectable valet it is not at all improbable

that he will be a scoundrel to a peculating nurse; and Nancy Garrs's testimony must be preferred to that of Mrs. Gaskell's "good old woman," especially when supported, as it is, by the emphatic and dignified statement of Mr. Brontë himself, who has never been accused of falsehood, and by the unanimous testimony of all who really knew him.

To the whitewashing of Branwell Brontë Mr. Leyland devotes much more space than to the vindication of his father; but I cannot think that he is here quite so successful in proving his case. In fact, it is not quite clear what his case really is, for he certainly cannot suppose that even the most receptive readers of his plea for the defence can regard Branwell as an admirable, or even as a lovable, character. What he apparently means to prove, and what I think he succeeds in proving, is that Branwell has been the victim of considerable misrepresentation and exaggeration, that he was weak rather than radically vicious, and that much of his conduct at the time of his life when he inflicted the greatest sorrow upon those who loved him was the result of monomania rather than of wickedness. Mr. Leyland, for example, seems to convict Miss Robinson of serious inaccuracies in her account of the manner in which Branwell left Bradford, where, with commendable industry, he had been endeavouring to secure independence as a portrait painter; and other writers have evidently been led into similar errors, which Mr. Leyland has been able to correct by the evidence of competent and credible witnesses. If, however, we ask ourselves "What do all these corrections and re-statements come to?" we can only answer, "Not very much." It may be quite true that Branwell did not leave Bradford in debt, as Miss Robinson says he did; that she has considerably ante-dated the opium-eating; that the story of his attempting to shoot his father is pure fiction; and that a number of other discreditable stories are either fictitious or grossly exaggerated: the fact remains that Branwell even as he is seen in these pages is a very sorry figure. All lovers of literature are, I should think, willing, indeed eager, to extend not merely just dues but generous allowances to anyone bearing the name of Brontë; but when justice and generosity have given all they have to give, their giving avails little to reverse, though in some respects it may serve to modify, the popular verdict. One important modification certainly must be made. Mr. Leyland's revelations leave hardly any reason for doubt that Branwell's extraordinary conduct after his dismissal by the employer, for whose wife the young tutor had conceived a mad passion, was not an outburst of mere commonplace profligacy, but was the symptom of a form of monomania familiar to experts in mental disease; and that, therefore, he could not for the time be regarded as in all respects a responsible person. His fixed delusions as to matters of actual fact, and his curious habit of imparting them in the strictest confidence to every person whom he met, remind one of the episode in the life of Hazlitt recorded in that strange book, the *Liber Amoris*. The cases are not wholly alike. Hazlitt's brain had a resisting power of which Branwell Brontë's alcoholic excesses had wholly or in part deprived him; but there is clear evidence that in both instances the

mind had for the time, and in relation to one subject, entirely lost its balance.

The most unsatisfactory and irritating portion of Mr. Leyland's book is that devoted to the really absurd question as to whether Branwell Brontë was wholly, or in part, the author of *Wuthering Heights*. While thoroughly sympathising with Miss Robinson's treatment of the ridiculous theory that Emily Brontë had won her laurels by the meanest of false pretences, I could not help feeling something like annoyance at the seriousness with which she treated the charge; but of that seriousness Mr. Leyland's chapter is a justification after the fact. I may be doing him injustice, but his handling of the subject strikes me as being somewhat wanting in candour. One receives the impression that he is hinting at a belief which he does not like fully to avow—that, like Macbeth, he is "letting 'I dare not' wait upon 'I would.' " He will not say that Branwell wrote the book which his sister claimed as her own; but he gives a number of reasons for regarding the hypothesis as tenable, and finally compromises the matter by formulating a theory of joint authorship, against which there is only one thing to be said—that there is not a tittle of tangible evidence to support it. All Mr. Leyland's ingenious parallelisms are of no value so long as we are confronted by the obvious fact that he cannot produce a line written by Branwell Brontë exhibiting the faintest adumbration of the genius which shines through every page of *Wuthering Heights*. It may, indeed, be urged that even Emily Brontë's own verse gives no adequate intimation of her extraordinary power in the region of prose fiction, but there is no impassable gap between *Wuthering Heights* and the *Poems by Ellis Bell*, such as there certainly is between the great romance and the generally thin, characterless verse of Branwell. I say "generally" because it may frankly be admitted that some few of the poems printed by Mr. Leyland have beauty of thought and an occasional fine felicity of diction; but there is nothing in any of them—in the best of them—to render possible the thought that their writer had it in him to tell the tale of Heathcliff and Catherine. In so far, therefore, as Mr. Leyland has attempted to raise Branwell Brontë to a vacant pinnacle and confer upon him an honour which assuredly is not his due, his book is a failure; but it is so full of interesting information that as a contribution to literary biography it may be considered a real success.

JAMES ASHCROFT NOBLE.

The Chersonese with the Gilding Off. By Emily Innes. In 2 vols. (Bentley.)

THE titles of books, like language as defined by Talleyrand, being now mostly intended to conceal their contents, it becomes necessary to explain that the curious title of this work simply means unpleasant experiences in the Malay Peninsula, or something to that effect. Miss Bird, who not long ago paid an agreeable visit to that region, travelling "under official auspices and entertained at the houses of officials everywhere," called her delightful book, *The Golden Chersonese*. So Mrs. Innes, who as wife of one of those officials "saw the Malayan country under totally different cir-

cumstances," calls her almost equally interesting work *The Chersonese with the Gilding Off*. The one sees everything from the sunny side; the other lives behind the scenes, and discovers by sad experience that there is a very dark side to the picture. Miss Bird's passing glimpses of bright prospects, gorgeous tropical vegetation and sparkling waters, be-held under the most favourable conditions, are vividly reflected in her brilliant descriptions, presenting the sharpest contrast to the somewhat gloomy, but by no means dull, pages of Mrs. Innes, who "vegetates amid these scenes for years without books, friends, or wholesome food, and with mosquitoes." Both accounts, faithfully embodying personal impressions from different standpoints, are thus complementary rather than contradictory of each other, for both are literally true in the highest sense of the term.

It was in the spring of 1876 that Mr. James Innes, late of Sarawak, was induced to accept the post of collector and magistrate at Langat, in the native state of Selangor. Although at that time the residence of Sultan Abdul Samat, nominal ruler of the country, Langat was not an inviting place even for a couple accustomed to the amenities of Sarawak. There was not much to choose between Dyak and Malay; while the mud-swamp, with one mud-path a quarter of a mile long between two padi-fields, and an attap or house of palm leaves on piles, of which Langat mainly consisted, could scarcely be regarded as an improvement on their Borneo experiences. Yet here they managed to hold out for three years till the completion of a new bungalow more pleasantly situated on a well-wooded height in the neighbourhood.

But there was worse to endure than the rude natives, the fever-stricken mangrove swamps, the "tiger" mosquitoes, and the real tigers which kept nightly vigils within a stone's throw of the compound. There was a British resident, also recently appointed and stationed at Klang (Kalang) as the official superior, but in all other senses immeasurably the inferior, of Mr. Innes. With admirable forbearance the author never once mentions the name of this person, and here it will suffice to say that his six years' tenure of office (1876-82) did not quite succeed in ruining British interests and civilising influences in Selangor. Even during her passing visit in 1879 Miss Bird could not fail to notice that all was not right; and such expressions as "a fussy government," affairs "somewhat mixed," "the people harassed by a vexatious and uncertain system of fees and taxes," "the various departments in a state of huffer-mugger," seem to drop unconsciously from her graphic pen. But what she did not know or suspect was his ungenerous treatment of Mr. Innes, an able and efficient servant of the Crown, placed at his mercy by the monstrous regulations of the Colonial Government, and at last driven from the service by the insufferable "insolence of office."

Thanks to this deplorable issue, Mrs. Innes is here able to speak her mind freely; and the reader cannot but admire the singular reserve with which she places on record a tale of official meanness and petty persecution happily rare in the annals of the colonial department. Let one incident suffice. Soon after removing to his new bungalow on

the hill, the collector receives a visit from the resident with his daughter, who are overheard dilating on the charms of the place, and

"consulting how it would be advisable to apportion the rooms. He was just coming to the room where we were sitting, with the words 'And this, you know, will do beautifully for the nursery,' on his lips, when he perceived us. Knowing we must have heard what he had said, he explained that he was thinking what an excellent house it would be for his son-in-law, should he be the person sent to do Mr. Innes's duty for him during his leave."

In fact, as it presently appeared, the bungalow was wanted for this son-in-law; and Mr. Innes was soon after "promoted," under official pressure, to Durian Sabatang, in Perak, a station which had the reputation of being "the white man's grave."

But, it will be asked, how could these things be? Was there no remedy, no means of protesting, or reporting matters to the authorities? None, absolutely none! All such complaints, by the departmental regulations, had to be forwarded *through the resident*, who returned any obnoxious passages scored in red, with an order to re-copy the report, omitting them. Then, if the expunged part was made the subject of an independent communication to the governor, the only result was a reprimand for neglect of official routine, so that

"it seemed impossible, so long as Mr. Innes remained in the service, to get a hearing. Afterwards, when he had resigned, and met some of the Singapore officials face to face, they tried to console him by telling him that on every occasion, while he had received a reprimand for form's sake, his immediate superior had received a much severer one, because it was evident that he was in the wrong."

Among the disorders that signaled this resident's administration was the so-called "Pangkor Murder" of 1878, when Mrs. Innes, at the time on a visit at Captain Lloyd's, narrowly escaped with her life. The account she gives of her share in the horrible drama is extremely graphic, and suggests a curious psychological problem. Roused by the noise in the next room, and peeping over the partition,

"I saw a sight which at once convinced me that all was not right. In the doorway opposite me, which I knew was Mrs. Lloyd's room, were two Chinamen dashing open a box with hatchets. Yet I was far from guessing that my host had been murdered a few minutes before, and that he and his wife were now lying, weltering in their blood, just inside that doorway! I cried out loudly, 'Captain Lloyd! Mrs. Lloyd! What is all this? What is the matter?' There was, of course, no answer; but one of the Chinamen looked up, saw me, and, with his hatchet still in his hand, made for the door of my bedroom. I darted down and held the door, in the insane hope of keeping him out; but, alas! it was only made, like the rest of the house, of palm-leaves lashed together with rattan, and in another moment the Chinaman had forced it open and stood before me. Even then I did not understand that he intended to murder me. . . . The Chinaman marched gravely and stolidly into the middle of the room, I retreating before him, and saying in Malay, 'What are you doing here? What do you want? Get out!' He made no answer, but held the hatchet up in front of him, grasping the handle with both hands, and, without the smallest change of

expression in his countenance, *made cuts, as I then thought ineffectually, at my head*. I raised my hand to parry the blows, and, *as I felt absolutely no pain, fancied I had succeeded*; but I must have fallen down insensible, as I remember nothing more. The doctor, on afterwards examining my head, found three trifling cuts and one severe one upon it, the latter about four inches long and tolerably deep."

Her tardiness in grasping the idea that she was being murdered she attributes to the demeanour of the Chinaman, calm, composed, phlegmatic, advancing without the smallest emotion or flurry, exactly as if going about his ordinary business. But the description of the scene seems rather to suggest a state of hypnotism, brought about by extreme tension of the nervous system, and no doubt aided by the impassive demeanour of the Chinaman. She receives the cuts aimed at her head as in a trance, resists almost unconsciously, fancies the blows miss their mark, and feels no pain. In this same ecstatic state she appears to have been taken by the gang to another room and thrust under the bed, where she afterwards recovered her senses, without being able to remember how she got there.

Mrs. Innes had much trouble with her Malay servants, whom she nevertheless preferred to the Chinese or Klings (Indians), as more handy, faithful and devoted. Yet one of them, "disorderly Suleh," was three months learning to handle a knife properly; mixed claret and porter instead of beer and porter to make "half-and-half"; handed round the sawdust instead of the ice packed in it; and made many other blunders worthy of Handy Andy himself. Others acquired a certain proficiency in English, and after assimilating a number of words to the Malay phonetic system came to regard them as native terms, and insisted on their being pronounced as such. So when their mistress used such words as *glass, bottle, stripe, blacking*, she would be respectfully informed that the proper pronunciation was *gullass, botole, essateripe, berleekin*. Otherwise the English language was held rather in contempt, there being an impression that it was spoken

"Only by about a dozen people in the world, even counting the Governor of Singapore and his followers, while wherever you go—to the north, south, east or west, or beyond the wind—you find Malay spoken."

Our civilisation also was scarcely so fully appreciated as many people fancy in their insular sense of superiority. In a discussion about the respective merits of fingers and forks a native raja argued against the use of forks and spoons as being

"such a dirty practice. We say to ourselves 'What do I know of the history of this fork? it has been in a hundred, perhaps a thousand, mouths; perhaps even in the mouth of my worst enemy.' This thought is very repulsive to us.' But," said I, "the fork is thoroughly cleaned, or ought to be, every time it is used, first with soap and water, then with plate-powder." *Ought to be*; quite so; but how do you know that your servant does not shirk his work? If you have a lazy servant you are liable to eat with a fork that has not been thoroughly cleaned; whereas, I know that my fingers are clean, for I wash them myself before eating. They are quite as clean as the cleanest fork, and they have two great advantages over it—one, that they have never been in anyone's mouth but my own, and another that they are

never lost, or mislaid or stolen! They are always at hand when one wants them."

It will be seen that under depressing circumstances Mrs. Innes can write vivaciously, and that her pages are far from being so "dull and gloomy" as she fancies.

A. H. KEANE.

Fifty Years of Concessions to Ireland. By R. Barry O'Brien. Vol. II. (Sampson Low.)

THOSE who have read Mr. O'Brien's former volume will not need to be reminded of the able and singularly lucid way in which, beginning with 1831 and ending with the break up of Lord Melbourne's ministry, he proved that every act of simple justice to Ireland, whether in regard to education, or parliamentary reform, or tithes, is rightly styled a concession, extorted, as it has been, by the *ultima ratio* of violence, and marred in each case by conditions which hampered its action and sometimes made it almost valueless. In this second volume he takes the same course with the same result, so that the unprejudiced reader closes the book convinced that even the Land Act of 1881 was a concession to the Land League, and was dogged by the ugly spectre of the Coercion Bill.

Landlordism is in Ireland an "upas tree" of old growth. Mr. O'Brien, indeed, traces it no farther back than the breach of the treaty of Limerick, whereby was secured the division of the people into two hostile nations; but we see in Spenser that the break up by English violence of the old clan system, and the transformation into a lord after the English type of the chief with his vaguely limited rights, tended to make him despotic. He acquired the new law-guarded powers of the landlord while retaining the traditional privileges of the chief. These powers were held in abeyance during the desperate struggle for the ownership of the soil which ended in 1690. Then, when Dopping, Bishop of Meath, advised the Lords Justices to "keep no faith with a people so perfidious as the Irish," and, accordingly, the clause which secured the Catholics in their estates was dropped out of the treaty in spite of William's express orders for its re-insertion, landlordism began to have free scope. So long, indeed, as William lived those who had maimed the treaty were checked by the knowledge that he was an honourable man; but Queen Anne's Penal Laws, "which," says Lecky, "abolished Catholic landlords and reduced Catholic tenants to a position of abject and hopeless serfdom," gave these treaty-breakers their opportunity. Then began the reign of rack-rents, middlemen, process-servers, and the like, not because the Irish landlord differed in grain from landlords elsewhere, but because instead of being, like the landlord in England, an individual dealing with individuals, he was one of that caste through which England elected to govern the country, and which she was, therefore, bound to protect. Hence one capital difference between Ireland and Scotland. The Scottish chief, too, became a landlord, shamefully ignoring his clansmen's rights; but he was still a Scot, one with his people in sentiment, in traditions; and, therefore, "Sutherland evictions" have till lately been the exception. After 1690, the Irish

landlord was (as one of his champions described him) "alien in blood, religion, and language," and he had the whole power of England to help him in enforcing the monstrous land-law which, in what Mr. O'Brien well calls the Colonial Parliament, he and his fellows had enacted. This should never be forgotten by those who are so ready to lay all the blame on "Irish landlords." In seven cases out of nine they were Englishmen by blood as well as sympathy, and they were placed by the English government in an inevitably demoralising position. They did not grow, they were made. Under such conditions, a race of angels would have degenerated into men "caring no more," says Mr. Froude, "for the souls and bodies of those committed to their charge than the drivers of a West Indian plantation for their herds of slaves." But, rampant as the Penal Laws made him, the landlord had not it all his own way. Tories and Rapparees (those waifs of broken families) were succeeded by Whiteboys, Oak-boys, Hearts of Steel (Ulster Presbyterians, evicted because Lord Donegal, wanting to raise £100,000, let their holdings to Belfast merchants), Rightboys who aimed at equalising tithe, Ribbonmen, &c., of whom sober-minded Arthur Young remarks, "the real cause of the disease lay in the gentlemen, not in the wretches they doomed to the gallows." Of these secret societies, each handed on to the next the torch of discord, the British government acquiescing in a state of things the most monstrous the civilised world has ever seen, because it was so hampered with "no Popery" as to be afraid to concede a grain of justice to its Catholic subjects.

The British Government acquiesced, but the British traveller never failed to see where the fault lay. Whether it is Arthur Young, going from landlord to landlord a century ago, or Wakefield in 1808 interviewing the Whiteboys round Tarbert, or Lord John Manners, or Mr. Nassau Senior, or Mr. Bright—in all there is a strange consensus. It is an old story, but the object of retelling it is twofold—first, to vindicate Ireland from the charge of ingratitude. The complaint is: "We're so anxious to give her justice, but we get no thanks for it." Thanks! Tardy justice, grudgingly conceded, has small right to them. And if the English people did at last come to desire to do Ireland justice, successive English ministries acted as if they wished to stave off each instalment so long as they could, and to make it as unpleasant as possible. The Encumbered Estates Act was "a boon to landlords only"; the motion for a Commission on the Irish Church went hand-in-hand with the inevitable Habeas Corpus Suspension Continuance Act; the vaunted Land Act of 1870 at once increased the number of evictions by nearly a third. Of the educational measures Maurice O'Connell's dictum is true: "The things we want are refused; the things we don't want are forced upon us." So much for Irish ingratitude. The other object is to give cumulative proof that force is no remedy. "Coerce, coerce," was dinned into Thomas Drummond's ears by coercion-reared officials; but that true statesman, a sketch of whose too brief career fittingly closes Mr. O'Brien's book, steadily refused to call for or to accept extraordinary powers. He so combated inertness and imbe-

cility, and so vitalised the ordinary machinery of the executive, that a police inspector who at first had cried out "impossible" pretty soon confessed: "If the business is well followed up, and for a sufficient time, the mischief will presently be put a stop to." Drummond putting down faction fights by sheer force of character is grander even than the same man telling landlords that property has duties as well as rights, at a time when an agent boasted that by suddenly raising the rents he had "done a good day's work—put £10,000 into his master's pocket." Throughout Drummond was a model administrator (look at his delicious correspondence with Col. Verner); and if he failed to wholly quell Ribbonism it was partly because he had not time, mainly because Lord Melbourne was thwarted in his attempts to support by proper remedial legislation his Under-Secretary's efforts.

Enough to call attention to a remarkable and timely book, which ought to be studied as a whole by those to whom Irish history is still a riddle. One thing will strike even the most casual reader—how often the Irish peasant has fought in the van of progress. Commons' enclosures were, till yesterday, sullenly acquiesced in by the English; the Whiteboys stood out against them. The tenants' co-partnership in the land, all advanced men are formulating it, *ad nauseam*, with all sorts of variations and back-looks at primitive usage; to the Irish peasant it has always been an heirloom for which he struggled and killed and died. Land nationalisation, peasant proprietorship, put it how you will, it is all summed up in his ineradicable belief that he had right on his side in resisting an eviction which meant utter ruin. Now that English reformers are going in for these very things, one cannot help feeling that the lines:

"Tritt du, mein Volk, der Völker vor;
Lass du dein Herzblut rinnen,"

are far truer of Ireland than of Germany.

The peasant has won at last; but at what a cost? The country impoverished; capital frightened away by insecurity bred of atrocious misrule; the spy-system made part and parcel of the national life; the nation split into two hostile camps secret societies ("agricultural trades' unions"); counterbalancing the still abnormally state-supported power of the landlord caste. What an indictment against "the English in Ireland"! And now that we say: "Leave us to ourselves; we can't possibly do worse than you have done for us," Mr. Chamberlain, the Champion of the Right, comes forward with the argument of brute force, and cries: "Four millions must give way to thirty," *i.e.*, if England wills it, the old coercion system shall go on as merrily as ever. Happily there are other millions who say "No" to this astounding threat; and their powerful voice makes one almost bless the famine of 1846, the death-pangs of which were in some sort the birth throes of that greater Ireland which Mr. Chamberlain forgot to take into his account.

I have not striven to be non-political: it is hopeless in reviewing a work of this kind. At any rate, I have kept clear of party politics, with which, indeed, Ireland has, and can have, nothing whatsoever to do. And now a word on the more welcome sub-

ject of ethnology. Mr. O'Brien, like so many more, assumes that the exceptional lawlessness of Tipperary is due to the stronger admixture of English blood. It may well be so. In Denver City, when Hepworth Dixon knew it, and in many another "frontier of civilisation," the Englishman has proved that he is only law-abiding so long as the law is really a *force majeure*. In Ireland the Somersetshire men of the Barony of Forth were the staunchest in '98. But let no one think that the Tipperary peasant is necessarily "Cromwellian" because he has grey eyes and light-brown hair. The heroes and heroines of Gaelic legend had hair "as yellow as the flower of the St. John's wort"; and the Romans, who were not blind, said *aurea caesaries ollis*, and contrasted them with the Basque-like Silures. The notion that "the Celt" is a short dark man may go with the belief in rock-basins, and ovates, and Cuthites.

HENRY STUART FAGAN.

NEW NOVELS.

White Heather. By William Black. (Macmillan.)

What is a Girl to do? By H. Sutherland Edwards. (Chapman & Hall.)

In his own Hand. By Mrs. G. Linnaeus Banks. (White.)

The Mystery of Allan Grale. By Isabella F. Mayo. (Bentley.)

Social Silhouettes. By Edgar Fawcett. (Triibner.)

Cassandra's Casket. By Mrs. Marshall. (Nisbet.)

Damages. By Vincent M. Holt. (Maxwell.)

SOME hard things have been said of late by an inconstant and ungrateful public, ever seeking after some new thing, of Mr. Black's books. But there is one thing that, whatever any great or small public may say, no critic will ever say—and that is that Mr. Black is unreadable. His writing and his narrative both slip along with a practised ease which certainly no other living novelist excels, if any other equals it. You may get out of the boat at the end and depart with as little excitement as the ordinary passenger who pays his two-pence and steps ashore at a ferry; but if you possess a judicial mind you cannot deny that the ferryman is a deacon in his craft. We do not particularly admire the principal distinguishing point of *White Heather*—the profusion of verse from the supposed hand of its hero with which its pages are studded. Not that Mr. Black is a bad verse-writer. On the contrary, his perfect familiarity with the always charming ballad common-places of Scotch literature, and a certain knack of smooth stanza-stringing with which the upper powers have gifted him, make his verses not much less pleasant reading than his prose. But there is little distinction about them, and as part of a novel they have an air of inappropriateness. The wicked critic catches himself wondering whether Mr. Black wrote the novel to bring in the verses, or the verses to eke out the novel; and though this is a base and brutal thought, it somehow or other occupies the mind. Still there is not the slightest ill-

feeling on the critic's part when Mr. Black and the critic part company. For his scenery Mr. Black has left the great and wide sea, and has gone to *eau douce*: though Highland lochs and rivers are not so very douce either, if a bilingual play on words may be permitted. His Highland heroine is the same kind of creature, rather too bright and good, &c., as his Highland heroines frequently have been. His American heroine is decidedly better than the average of American heroines as represented both by their countrymen and others, and may be pronounced a really attractive womankind. Her father is not too much of a bore, despite his velvet and gold slippers, and his Republican principles, and there is considerable *verve* in the buxom Glasgow widow, Kate Menzies. We have expressed but qualified respect for the verses of Mr. Ronald Strang, gamekeeper and genius. But there is a certain sense (Irish we believe) in which the words "a great poet" might be applied to him. And we should be glad to be more sure of the happiness of Miss Meenie Douglas, the ethereal young woman above referred to, after she has been assigned as daily food to such a human nature. Of the book as a whole it can only be said that Mr. Black has done worse work, and better.

Mr. Sutherland Edwards's book is a sufficiently lively and varied account of the fortunes of a self-helpful young lady who is cheated of her inheritance by a wicked French uncle, and mixes in London literary, musical, and dramatic society of a semi-Bohemian character without any unpleasant results on her morals and manners. Perhaps Mr. Edwards's sketches may do a little, a very little, harm by keeping up in the public mind the extremely unfounded idea that Bohemianism is more or less inseparable from literature and art. But the said sketches are amusing enough, never offend seriously against good taste, and, as initiated persons will easily recognise, are not unfrequently founded on fact without the founding on fact being of an objectionably personal kind. The latter part of the book deals with the war of 1870, and is written with spirit and knowledge, while Mr. Sutherland Edwards has also brought in by no means tediously or *mal apropos* his acquaintance with Russian things. Of all persons concerned Mr. Edwards writes amiably, except, perhaps, of writers of leading articles. Now, it is doubtless easier to write leading articles than to write, say, *Paradise Lost* or *Vanity Fair*; yet, we think, we have heard of practised men of letters who could not manage a leading article.

Readers of Mrs. Linnaeus Banks's stories of life in the midland and northern counties know that she is fond of taking a historic personage of the minor kind, or, at any rate, a historical incident, and working it up into a novel. It is scarcely necessary here to pass any elaborate judgment on the wisdom of this proceeding. It at any rate secures that there shall be no lack of matter, though, perhaps, it does not exactly facilitate the dealing with that matter in a way wholly agreeable to the laws of art. The hero of *In his own Hand* is William Hutton, of Birmingham, a man well enough known, though, perhaps, not to the present generation. Hutton's career, with the Priestley riots for an inspiring finish to the

third volume, has given the author a subject by no means ill suited to her peculiar tastes and talents, so that the book may very fairly rank by the side of *The Manchester Man*. The scenes and characters are sufficiently varied, and if there is not a great deal of plot there is plenty of action.

The Mystery of Allan Grale is a title which a pedantic critic might describe as possessing the quality of polarity. That is to say, it is likely to attract some readers and repel others for exactly the same reason. We confess to being rather of the latter class. The fictitious persons who leave their hats in pools and themselves (or something that, being in the condition of Sir Thomas in the *Ingoldsby Legends*, is capable of being mistaken for them) somewhere near the hats do not greatly arride us. On the other hand there are many people who love them dearly, especially when, as here, there is a ghostly knock at the door thrown into the bargain and several trifles of the same kind. Moreover, it is fair to say that the book is very far from being all rawhead-and-bloodybones, and that there is plenty of commonplace dialogue and action—action and dialogue, indeed, so commonplace as to remind the reader strikingly of Mrs. Henry Wood. Now, Mrs. Henry Wood, like other distinguished persons, is a popular writer; and we do not know why Miss or Mrs. Mayo should not be one likewise. Her opening chapter is better written than the greater part of her book, and this probably shows that she can do better than *Allan Grale* if she tries.

To say that Mr. Edgar Fawcett's prose is a great deal better than his verse may seem a rather ungracious compliment; but as a faithful record of critical impression it cannot be avoided. Even in Mr. Fawcett's prose there is occasionally a good deal of the *style tourmenté*. When one finds that he cannot tell us how a rather good-looking woman had an ugly nose without saying "her nose in its abandonment of symmetry should perhaps not be recorded of her so to speak: there seems even a sort of ungallantry in mentioning it, since the rest of her face is a sort of wistful feminine apology for her having it at all," there is very little to be done except to ejaculate "Lord! Lord!" or "Papae!" or "Aballiboozabanganoribo!" or anything else that comes handiest, and pass on. The matter, too, as distinguished from the form of the book (which is a series of sketches of New York society, supposed to be furnished by a certain Mark Manhattan), has the drawback of most social sketches, the drawback of being too evidently conventional. As a matter of fact (though it is a fact that only social satirists of the calibre of Thackeray or Fielding recognise) men and women do not fall into the hard-and-fast types that the minor social satirist loves. Still Mr. Fawcett has some amusing sketches, and one or two decidedly clever ones. "An Anglomaniac with Brains" (Mr. Fawcett, by the way, appears himself to have Anglomaniacs rather on the brain), "The Young Man who imagines," and "The Gentleman who Lived Too Long," have considerable merit; nor is "The Lady who is Sensational," from which the above singular sentence is extracted, altogether unhappy. It is odd, though, that

while it contains a sneer at the late Mr. Trollope, at least one side, the less amiable one, of the heroine's character, is either a reminiscence of, or a very curious coincidence with, the great Madalina Demolines.

Cassandra's Casket is not an American book, which it is well to mention, because of the sense which American fancy for fine language has put on the word "casket." Cassandra is not a corpse, nor is she like Madame Sarah Bernhardt. Her casket is only a little silver box which she finds on the sea-shore, and she herself is only a school girl who gets into trouble with a prim half-sister. The book, like all Mrs. Marshall's books, is well principled and well intentioned in every way, though we doubt the wisdom of always, as somebody once irreverently phrased it, "chucking in a death-bed" to impress the youthful mind. The story is told with sufficient liveliness, and the school scenes and conversations are natural. There are illustrations which are, we think, nearly the worst we ever saw.

The hero of Mr. Holt's *Damages* remarks at the end to his papa, whom he has (the word is fortunately not actionable as applied to a fictitious character) swindled out of sixty thousand pounds by a collusive action for breach of promise, with the intention of then marrying the young woman and living comfortably thereon, "It may be a mean trick, father." Lord Mainoaks's candour is exemplary, and we shall only say that it would have been better if he had substituted "is" for "may be." So it appears the modern version runs: "Though father and mither and a' should go mad, Yet ye'll just allow me to bring an action against ye, and they'll have to pay the damages, and then, without the trouble of whistling, I'll come to ye, my lad." We are only very foolish fond old critics; but we like the ancient ways better.

GEORGE SAINTSBURY.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

"**ENGLISH WORTHIES.**"—*Charles Darwin.* By Grant Allen. (Longmans.) No other man could have been found so well qualified as Mr. Grant Allen for the task of writing such a thoroughly popular account of Darwin's life and achievement as might appropriately find a place between the "fancy boards" of a volume of the "English Worthies" series. In any other hands of equal scientific competence the book on Darwin would have been—very excusably, most people would have thought—the least entertaining of the series; but Mr. Lang will be a fortunate editor indeed, if many of his contributors succeed in rivalling the charm of style and unfailing popular interest of the opening volume. The manner in which the biographical portion of the work has been written has a peculiar appropriateness to the subject. The author observes in his preface that he regards Darwin's life "mainly as a study in the interaction of organism and environment"; and in this spirit he has tried to show how Darwin's greatness was the result, on the one hand, of the qualities he had inherited from both lines of his ancestry, and, on the other hand, of the intellectual movements that were at work in "the world into which he was born." After tracing the course of the studies by which Darwin was conducted to his epoch-making discovery, and sketching the history of the approximations which had been made by earlier enquirers to an anticipation of the Darwinian theory, Mr. Allen proceeds to

give an account of the principles set forth in *The Origin of Species*. The author says in a footnote that those who are acquainted with the original work may safely "skip" the pages which he has devoted to this subject. We cannot second the advice: the reader who follows it will certainly miss some very charming writing, and possibly a useful lesson in the art of popular scientific exposition. Although Mr. Allen himself does not seem very sanguine on the point, we do not think that many readers of these pages will fail to obtain a clear idea as to the true nature and bearings of the much-misunderstood doctrine of "Natural Selection." The story of the gradual acceptance of this doctrine by the scientific world is then briefly told, and an outline is given of Darwin's later scientific labours. The volume concludes with two chapters, headed "Darwin's Place in the Evolutionary Movement," and "The Net Result." These closing chapters are certainly not calculated to reassure those persons who are terrified by the thought of the destructive inferences that may be drawn from the Darwinian principles. In fact, the author has rather needlessly gone out of his way to excite adverse prejudice by apparently making Darwinism responsible for consequences which (as he would doubtless admit) it has not been proved necessarily to involve. To Mr. Allen's ardent faith the victory of Darwin carries with it the victory of Mr. Herbert Spencer, and he cannot forego the opportunity of singing his song of triumph—a little more loudly than is consistent with good taste. Only very fervid partisans, we fancy, will quite approve of the tone of such sentences as the following:

"Dogmatic Comte was forthwith left to the little band of his devoted adherents; shadowy Hegel was relegated with a bow to the cool shades of the common rooms of Oxford; Buckle was exploded like an inflated wind-bag; even Mill himself—"

but we need not complete the quotation. Once or twice in the book Mr. Allen indulges in scoffing remarks about scientific "solidity" and "plodding," which seem by no means appropriate in a biography of the most thorough and patient of all students of nature; and he utters no wholesome word of caution against the sciolism which plays at inventing explanations of facts which it has never taken the trouble to master. Such a caution would have been eminently in place, because speculation of this kind nowadays generally calls itself Darwinian—very naturally, for in rash and unskilled hands the keys on the Darwinian bunch can always be made to revolve beautifully in the lock, whether they draw the bolt or not. It is quite plain that Mr. Allen's instinctive sympathies are rather with the brilliant theorists than with the class of cautious investigators to which Darwin belonged; but it is all the more to his credit that this bias has not betrayed him into any defective appreciation of Darwin's personal greatness or of the importance of his scientific work. If the book is not faultless, it is at any rate a performance of which the author has a right to be proud, and which sets up a standard of excellence that the writers of the succeeding volumes of the series will not find it easy to surpass.

The River Column: a Narrative of the Advance of the River Column of the Nile Expeditionary Force, and its Return down the Rapids. By Maj.-Gen. Henry Brackenbury. With Maps by Major the Hon. F. L. L. Colborne. (Blackwood.) Events move so rapidly in contemporary history, that even the lengthy sub-title of this book may fail to bring to the remembrance of some the military achievement which it records. And yet scarcely nine months have passed since we were all anxiously reading telegrams from Korti, Merawi, Hamdab, Birti, and Kirbekan. The "river column"

was technically a "flying column," i.e., a force cut off from its base of supplies, whose duty it was to reach Berber by the river, and there cooperate with the "desert column" from Metemneh. The fall of Khartum and the death of Gordon caused its recall, when it had broken the opposition of the enemy by the brilliant action at Kirbekan, and had overcome the still more formidable obstacles presented by the rapids of the Nile. In one sense, therefore, its operations were fruitless; and at no time did it run such serious hazard as did the desert column. The measure of success which it attained is of special military interest as representing the furthest development of Lord Wolseley's much debated plan of conveying his army up the Nile in boats to Khartum. That this plan was feasible there can be no doubt; but it seems no less clear that it involved a longer duration of time than was compatible with the supreme object of the expedition—the rescue of Gordon. Gen. Brackenbury, who succeeded to the command of the river column after the death of Gen. Earle at Kirbekan, has here written a plain narrative, almost in diary form, of the incidents of the expedition, which no other single man could describe with equal knowledge. Though he has purposely avoided the usual efforts after fine writing, we undertake to say that his book will be read as widely and as carefully as it deserves. For by force of its subject it is an entirely novel contribution to military history. To the lay reader, its chief interest consists in its explanation of the supreme importance of transport, commissariat, and other staff arrangements. The military student will be not less attracted by the excellent maps of a practically unknown region, which we owe to a grandson of the first Lord Seaton. May we take the liberty of suggesting to the author a motto out of *Hypatia*?

"Why do you not sit down, man," quoth Cyril. "Pardon me," said the monk, with a piteous gesture; "of sitting as of all carnal pleasure, cometh satiety at the last."

New Guinea: an Account of the Establishment of the British Protectorate on the Southern Shores of New Guinea. By Charles Lyne, Special Correspondent of the *Sydney Morning Herald*. (Sampson Low.) The circumstances of Commodore Erskine's recent cruise were detailed in the newspapers at the time. It is a slight exaggeration to say that "a great deal of New Guinea and its people was seen," even by the Special Correspondent; but the protection of the men-of-war and the guidance of the missionaries afforded exceptional opportunities, and Mr. Lyne made good use of them. All the chief places along the limited extent of coast embraced by the Protectorate were visited, and its object carefully explained to the people, the visit of the ships being rendered more welcome by the fact that they took back with them from Queensland a number of natives who had been kidnapped or decoyed under false pretences by the "Labour" vessels. The success of the expedition, however, was due almost entirely to the beneficent influence established in the last few years by such men as Messrs. Lawes and Chalmers, the missionaries, the civilising effect of whose work has been very remarkable. Those who are interested in the subject will not, naturally, expect to learn from an account of this flying visit anything about the country or the people which has not already been recorded by writers like Mr. Chalmers or Mr. Wyatt Gill; but Mr. Lyne is a practised writer, and relates all that he saw very pleasantly and intelligently. He is, for instance, especially careful in describing the peculiarities of ornaments, and of personal appearance, which distinguish one tribe from another. The unfavourable view which he takes of the capabilities of the country for settlement is worthy of notice.

SIR EDMUND DU CANE'S volume on *The Punishment and Prevention of Crime*, the latest addition to the "English Citizen" series (Macmillan), contains much pleasant reading for those who believe in the gradual improvement of the human race. The number of criminals is diminishing every year, while the population is increasing even more markedly. The unfortunates or the wilful who are under restraint offend less and less each year against the prison regulations, and the cost of maintaining the vast establishments which are required for the housing of the criminals is being rigidly reduced, much to the satisfaction of the taxpayer. Eight years ago the annual expenditure on prisons amounted to £496,000, and they were then under local authority; now, when all the fancied evils of State management have been introduced, the cost has dwindled steadily to £381,000. Two of the chapters of Sir Edmund du Cane's book have interested us greatly. One of them contains a description of prison life at the present time, and the details of the trades which the inmates are taught; the other supplies some information, necessarily limited, on the register of criminals which is distributed annually to the prisons all over the kingdom, and on the societies which have been formed for ameliorating the condition of the prison inmates when they are once more restored to liberty. The records of the past seem to have been freely opened to the Surveyor-General of Prisons, and much antiquarian information is incorporated into the pages of his treatise. It would be difficult to cap the story (p. 57) of the felon who was confined in a prison where Bible reading formed his chief occupation, but was unfortunately liberated from his cell and interrupted in his studies when he had only "got as far as Ephesians," whereupon he stole a sheep to go back once more into restraint and learn the rest of the Testament. Sir Edmund du Cane seems inclined to hesitate in accepting the statement that some contractors who had purchased convicts at Bristol for transportation to the Colonies landed their property at Lundy Island, but we think that it is corroborated in Mr. Chantler's description of Lundy. Both amusement and instruction may be acquired from this guide to prison life.

Les Chers Voisins. Par Max O'Rell. (Paris: Calmann Lévy.) This latest volume will in some degree repair the injury which the author did to his own reputation by the silly and vulgar performance called *Les Filles de John Bull*. Perhaps the new book is not quite equal to *John Bull et son Ile*; it is rather carelessly put together, and contains some commonplace padding—the worst specimen being a ridiculous chapter on sea-sickness. But on the whole it is decidedly worth reading. The writer's professed object is the promotion of mutual respect and goodwill between Frenchmen and Englishmen, and he therefore dwells chiefly on the more attractive features of national character; but the oddities and weaknesses of both nations come in for a good deal of clever and good-humoured satire. Some amusing illustrations are given of the reciprocal mimicry of each other's fashions and language by the French and the English. In Parisian middle-class society, it seems, it has become usual for cards of invitation to contain the singular intimation: "On fivecloquera à neuf heures." The chapter headed "Pharisiens et Crocodiles" very aptly hits off the contrast between the forms which hypocrisy assumes in England and in France—the English cant of piety and morality, and the French cant of high-flown sentiment. The remarks on the difference in usage between the words "British" and "English" is neatly put.

"On dit: 'Histoire de la littérature anglaise': on ne dira pas: 'Histoire de la littérature bri-

tannique.' Il y a dans le mot *British*, soit quelque chose de goguenard, soit quelque chose de chauvin. On dira fort bien *British Soldiers*, *British Army*. La dame qui a rempli les journaux de ses hauts cris sur les quelques nudités qui ont été exposées au Salon anglais de l'année, n'est connue que sous le nom de *British Matron*. . . . L'*English Public*, c'est la bonne société; le *British Public*, c'est le commun des mortels du Royaume-Uni."

The author adds that "British" is to "English" much as "Gaulois" is to "Français"—an observation which may be true *mutatis mutandis*, though the saving clause means a great deal. Speaking of the political power of epigrammatic phrases in France, and of the many cases in which rashly uttered sayings like Ollivier's *cœur léger* and Jules Favre's "not an inch of our territory, not a stone of our fortresses," have destroyed the political career of their authors, "Max O'Rell" remarks: "L'histoire de France pourrait s'écrire entre des guillemets." Of the English public-school system, of which he has had much experience, the author is an unqualified admirer, contrasting it with the system of the French *lycées* entirely to the disadvantage of the latter. It rather surprises us to be told that England (once, as the reader is reminded, the country of Newton and Harvey) has long ceased to occupy herself in scientific discovery or invention. We are not of those Englishmen who believe that "France never invented anything but the guillotine"; but a list of the greatest discoverers and inventors of the last thirty years would show more Englishmen than Frenchmen, though, so far as industrial inventors are concerned, there would probably be more Americans than either. Altogether, though the book is not calculated for more than an ephemeral popularity, it very fairly deserves the kind of success at which it aims.

NOTES AND NEWS.

PROF. MAX MÜLLER is now at Florence, where he intends to remain for the next three weeks.

PROF. SAYCE purposes to leave England on Nov. 27. He goes direct to Egypt via Brindisi, and hopes to spend some time with Mr. Flinders Petrie and Mr. Ernest Gardner on the site of Naukratis.

THE *Oxford Magazine* prints a list of Oxford men who are candidates at the general election. The total is no less than 193, of whom 108 are Liberals and 85 Conservatives. It is interesting to find that, of those who took first-class honours, 64 are Liberals and 25 Conservatives; of those who took first-class honours in the final classical school, 25 are Liberals and 5 Conservatives; and of those who took double first classes, all are Liberals. The same proportion seems to hold good at Cambridge, where, out of the candidates who took first classes, 25 are Liberals and 12 Conservatives.

As much interest has been aroused by the announcement of Mr. James E. Doyle's *Official Baronage of England*, we may state that, though the large paper copies of the work are now ready for subscribers, the issue of the ordinary edition will probably be postponed for a few weeks. Mr. James E. Doyle, we may add, is the nephew of the famous "H. B." of *Punch*, and the writer of the text of *Brown, Jones and Robinson*.

A NEW poem, entitled *Eros and Psyche*, by Mr. Robert Bridges, the author of *Prometheus the Firegiver*, is in the press, and will be published by Messrs. Bell & Sons before Christmas.

WE are glad to hear that the sale of the new collected edition of Mr. George Meredith's novels far exceeds the estimate of his publishers.

THE "Murray Indemnity Fund," set on foot by the Philological Society to repay to the editor of its New English Dictionary the £400 borrowed, and £150 advanced by him to bring out part i. of the dictionary, has accomplished its main objects. The £400 and the £150 have been repaid, the heavy costs of printing and postage in raising the sums have been discharged, and a balance of about £30 is in hand, which will be placed at Dr. Murray's disposal. The fund will be kept open till the middle of December, so that contributions may still be paid to the treasurer, Mr. B. Dawson, the Mount, Hampstead, N.W.

THE Wyclif Quincentenary Committee, having failed to raise funds for the erection of a statue to Wyclif, has handed over its balance of sixteen guineas to the Wyclif Society for the publication of Wyclif's Latin works, and thus ended its labours.

THE Wyclif Society has two books just ready for issue—Prof. Loserth's edition of Wyclif's *De Ecclesia*, whose last sheet is in proof; and Mr. Alfred Pollard's edition of the *Dialogues*, whose text is printed, and whose introduction, notes, and index are nearly finished.

LAST year we remember the American papers boasted that their magazines were entirely supplied with native fiction. For the coming year *Harper's* will have a novel by Mr. R. D. Blackmore, entitled "Springhaven," dealing with rural England at the time of the Napoleonic wars; and *Lippincott's*, a novel by Mr. W. E. Norris, entitled "Hope," in addition to a series of stories, sketches, &c., by some dozen English authors, published simultaneously with their appearance in England.

NOT a few readers of the ACADEMY will be interested to know that the grave of the late R. H. Horne, at Margate, has been marked by a tombstone, erected by an old friend, which contains inscriptions stating who he was and what he wrote, with a quotation from *Orion*.

MR. W. E. FORSTER will contribute a preface to a work which Messrs. Cassell & Co. are about to publish, entitled *The Citizen Reader*. This book, which is written for the use of the upper standards of elementary schools, will contain an account, in simple and popular language, of the legislative and administrative arrangements of our country, and give clear instructions in regard to the rights, duties, and privileges of English citizens. It will be fully illustrated with wood engravings, and will contain two coloured plates.

A NEW edition of Mr. R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island* will be published next week, the special feature of which is numerous illustrations, now appearing for the first time.

The Last Meeting, the new story which Mr. T. Fisher Unwin will publish next week, is by Mr. Brander Matthews, who has sought to unite the delicate character-drawing and brilliant dialogue of the new American school of fiction with an elaborate plot, turning on a mysterious disappearance.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will also publish a new book by Dr. Charles Grindrod, entitled *Tales in the Speech-House*. It consists of a series of short stories by a party of snow-bound travellers in the Forest of Dean, the stories being linked together by the personality of the tellers. Illustrations of some of the chief points of the forest scenery accompany the work.

MESSRS. BLACKWOOD announce *The Shire Highlands*, by Mr. John Buchanan, planter at Zomba, in East Central Africa.

The Wit and Humour of Life is the title of a volume by Dr. Charles Stanford, which will be published shortly by Mr. Elliot Stock.

Sylvan Winter, Mr. Francis George Heath's new book, which will be published immediately by Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., will include seventy illustrations by Mr. Frederick Golden Short.

MESSRS. T. & T. CLARK, of Edinburgh, have acquired the sole right of translation of the late Prof. J. A. Dörner's *System of Christian Ethics*.

MESSRS. BURNS & OATES will publish shortly a popular edition of Mr. J. N. Murphy's *Chair of Peter*, with more than 100 pages of new matter and the statistics brought down to the present year.

MR. JAMES BONAR's *Malthus and his Work* has had the distinction of being reprinted in Messrs. Harper's "Handy Series," which is almost entirely confined to popular works of fiction.

MR. J. THEODORE BENT will contribute another article on "Diaries of Early Travel" to the next number of the *Antiquary*. For the same journal Mr. Edward Solly has written a bibliographical study of Steele's *Christian Hero*, and there will also be given a transcript of a contemporary MS. account of the rebellion of the Earl of Essex. Miss Toulmin Smith will write an article on the House of Lords.

DURING next week, beginning on Monday, and during the whole of the week following, Messrs. Sotheby will sell by auction the collection of rare books and MSS. formed by Mr. Ellis, the well-known dealer of New Bond Street, who is retiring from business in consequence of ill-health. Many of the books have recently appeared in the auction mart, but there are also a number of privately printed works such as do not often come up for sale. Among the MSS. is the interesting little volume of Blake's poems and drawings which belonged to the late D. G. Rossetti. The total number of lots is 3201.

THE number of men in residence this term at Durham University is 186, of whom 123 are attending the arts course and 63 the theological. Only a few years ago the proportion between the two faculties was exactly the reverse.

THE annual general meeting of the Society of Cymmrodorion, for the encouragement of literature, science, and art in Wales, will be held on Thursday next, November 19, at the Holborn Restaurant, at 6 p.m., followed by the annual dinner at the same place at 6 p.m. Prof. F. T. Roberts is announced to take the chair at the meeting, and the Earl of Powis at the dinner.

WE have received some interesting statistics concerning the Wandsworth Public Library, the only free library (we believe) in South London, which was opened by the Lord Mayor on October 1. The total number of books is 6840, of which 1774 are in the reference department. During five weeks, the number of readers' tickets issued has been 1368, the total population of Wandsworth at the census of 1881 having been just 28,000; the number of volumes issued has been 6881; of the total number issued for home reading, 3839, or 68 per cent. come under the class of fiction, and 9 per cent. under the class of juvenile books. Though this proportion looks large, we are assured that it is somewhat lower than the average in other free libraries. The catalogue has been compiled by Mr. Alfred Cotgreave, well-known to all "librarians." His aim has been to anticipate the wants of readers by abundance of cross-references. Most books are entered three times over—under their author's name, their title, and their subject; while important articles in serial works (e.g., those in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*) are also entered under their subjects.

MR. F. T. ELWORTHY, and his ten fellow committee-men, have put forth a very interesting Report on a collection of Fresh Devonshire Verbal Provincialisms. Besides many excellent old dialect words, racy new ones are being coined. For instance, a mechanic's wife, whose sick child the chemist had failed to cure, brought him to the doctor, saying, "I chemis't him a few days first, sir, but finding him no better, I've brought him to you." Another word illustrates Shakspeare's "mobled queene" (Folio 2), our "mob-cap" &c.: "If I did'n [couldn't] do it better than that blind-mobbed [blind-folded, muffled] I'd have my arms cut off," said a farmer about some bad work.

COUNT UGO BALZANI has contributed to the Società romana di storia patria a paper upon a curious contemporary account of Joan of Arc. It is an appendix to the chronicle known as the *Breviarium Historiale*, of which many MSS. exist, and which was printed at Poitiers as early as 1479. So far as is known all the copies stop short at the year 1428, with the exception of the one lately discovered at Rome. This is written by the chronicler himself, and is carried one year later, to the end of 1429. It records the deliverance of Orleans, but not the oath of the king at Rheims. No new facts are given; but the account is important as showing the interest felt in the exploits of the Maiden. Of the chronicler nothing is known beyond that he was a Frenchman, living at Rome in the court of Pope Martin V.

THE "Fondation Pestalozzi" in Canton Vaud is asking for the subscription of 25,000 francs for the erection of a bronze statue of the great educator on the scene of his labours at Yverdon from 1805 to 1825.

WITH reference to Prof. Ray Lankester's letter, the writer of the article on "The Proposed Teaching University of London," in the ACADEMY of October 31, wishes to state that he had been informed by one of the professors of University College that about two-thirds of his colleagues were present at the meeting which expressed dissatisfaction with the scheme of Lord Justice Fry's committee. The convocation of London University, on November 3, passed, by a large majority, a vote adverse to the same scheme.

THERE has been sent to us a contrivance called the "Academy Easel," which deserves the notice of all who use pen or pencil. It may be described as a folding slab of wood, hollowed out to contain writing or drawing materials. When not in use, it is carried over the shoulder by a strap, like an opera glass. It is brought into use by being opened out, when it forms a sort of portable desk, still sustained by the strap, and ingeniously fitted to the right hip. Its great merits are its simplicity and excellence of workmanship. Its mechanism can be understood at once, and can hardly get out of order. For newspaper correspondents and reporters, who must furnish copy under all conditions; for staff officers in the field; for artists on tour; for such persons as are accustomed to write in a railway carriage, or in an easy chair—in short, wherever a table is not at hand, we should say that it would prove invaluable. The inventor of the "Academy Easel" is Mr. E. H. Bramley, himself, we understand, a reporter of long standing. His agents for sale are the North of England School Furnishing Company, 121 Newgate Street, E.C.

FRENCH JOTTINGS.

Two new works by M. Renan are announced for immediate publication: the one is a philosophical play, in five acts, entitled *Le Prêtre de Nemi*, the other is a translation of *The Song of Songs*, with etchings by MM. Boilvin and Hédouin.

M. PAUL BOURGET will publish shortly a continuation of his *Psychologie contemporaine*, containing essays upon Goncourt, Alexandre Dumas fils, Leconte de Lisle, Tourgueneff, &c.

M. ZOLA's forthcoming work, entitled *L'Œuvre*, will deal with the world of artists and studios.

THE next volume in the series of "Chefs-d'œuvre du roman contemporain" will be George Sand's *Mauprat*, with ten etchings by Toussaint after J. Le Blant.

THE bureau of the Académie française, as constituted for the present quarter, consists of M. Cherbuliez as director and M. Duruy as chancellor.

TOURISTS through France will miss a familiar object at Dijon. The beautiful curved spire of the Cathedral of St. Bénigne has been removed, with very great damage to the appearance of the church. This step has been taken in consequence of danger to the building. It was feared that the spire, being so much bent, might fall and crush in the roof.

A STATUE is about to be erected at Nantes to a citizen who well deserves the honour. Guépin, of Nantes, was not only a charming and learned writer, he was a leader of democratic opinion, an active political propagandist, and last, but not least, a distinguished oculist. A Bas-Breton by birth, this many-sided, largely-gifted man possessed the geniality of a Gascon, combined with the tenacious convictions of the Breton character. No man was ever more beloved, and none was ever more devoted to the cause of the poor and the unhappy. His contributions to the celebrated *Dictionnaire de Bretagne* of Ogee were important, and his *Histoire de Nantes* is still invaluable. His *opus magnum*, *La Philosophie du XIX^{me} Siècle*, published in 1854, shows much independent thought and leaning towards advanced theories, especially with regard to education and the position of women. He also wrote many works on the eye, its diseases and their treatment. The statue is to be erected partly at the cost of the state, senators, deputies, and above all, the inhabitants of Nantes and of the Loire Inférieure aiding in the work. Nantes has already named one of her streets after her illustrious townsman, and a monument has been erected to his memory in the cemetery by penny contributions of working men.

As an example of the interest now taken by thoughtful Frenchwomen in the questions of the day, we cite the following works by Madame Laboulais (Paris: Lafitte): *Considérations sur l'amélioration du sort moral de l'ouvrier, et Causeries d'un ancien ouvrier avec ses jeunes camarades*. This lady goes upon the lines of not writing down to the capacities of the unlettered. She has found, and her experience is considerable, that the French workman can appreciate good language as well as good thought. Her writings show deep sympathy with the *ouvrier* as a class. Yet we are perpetually talking of class antipathies in France!

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

The *Expositor* for November contains two valuable extracts from Mommsen's fifth volume on the reference of the Apocalypse to Nero, and on the "Itala"; a continuation of Messrs. Jennings and Lowe's lively criticisms on the Revised Version, and of Prof. Warfield's Messianic Psalms of the New Testament; M. Godet's article on 2 Corinthians, and Dr. Maclaren's on Colossians, Baron Moncrieff on Pascal, Dr. Cheyne on Kalisch, and "Brevis."

THE *Theologisch Tijdschrift* gives the conclusion of an excellent paper on the *Didachè* by Dr. Meyboom, complaining *inter alia* of the unrestrained wilfulness of critics; and an article

by Dr. Scheffer (whose name is new to us in this department) against the theory that Joel is an apocalyptic writer of 400 B.C.

In the *Revista Contemporanea* for October, Alvarez Sereix recounts the labours of the Geographical and Statistical Institute of Spain. Besides more purely scientific results, the topographical surveys are of the highest importance to the government. In six provinces more than two million hectares were found beyond those in the assessment, only two-thirds of the actual surface having paid taxes. Such a fact shows that the charges of corrupt administration made by Gonzalez Janer, in the same number, are not exaggerated. One remedy suggested by the latter is competition for public offices by open examination. Dionisio Chauli, in "Cosas de Madrid," tells what the practical jokes of the city were in the days of his youth. Mariano Amador writes a highly coloured narrative of the first siege of Zaragoza. Becerro de Bengoa narrates in descriptive verse some "Excursiones Artísticas," and Solar Arques concludes his popular description of the Farthest East.

THE *Boletín* of the Real Academia de la Historia for October is occupied almost wholly with ecclesiastical matters. Fernandez Duro establishes the date (1524) of the institution of the Patriarchate of the Indies, and gives a list of the patriarchs. Padre F. Fita prints some inedited Papal Bulls of *saec.* XII., which mention the Church of the Atocha in Madrid.

ORIGINAL VERSE.

THE HIGHLAND WIDOW'S LAMENT.

WEARY wi' roamin' I sit in the gloamin',
I sit on my ain door-stane,
The flock o' the fauld nestle close fra' the cauld,
I sit an' I sigh here, my lane.
The bent trees are groanin', the sad wind is moanin',
The shadow creeps over the hill,
The burn as it flows tells the tale of its woes,
But I as the shadow am still.
The road at its turnin' my dim eye discernin',
I mark where he cam wi' the kye,
When the day's wark was done at the set o' the sun
In the season for ever forbye.
Fond hope that deceived me, cauld death that bereaved me,
My gudeman he left me sae young,
That, old an' forlorn, he might hold me in scorn,
Should I take his dear name on my tongue.
Still, I oft by my gleamin' lone hearth fall a-dreamin',
And think of that season of auld,
Of a love was sae near, of a love was sae dear,
It has gared every ither seem cauld.
Should the grave in undoin' once bring me renewin',
More bonny for sairly-tried truth,
I wad dare then to name you, my Willie, an' claim you,
Nae longer sae fashed by your youth.

EMILY PFEIFFER.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- BOTTICELLI, S. Zeichnungen zu Dautes göttlicher Komödie. Hrgs. v. F. Lippmann. 2. Abth. Berlin: Grote. 90 M.
COSTE, Ad. Les Questions sociales contemporaines. Paris: Alcan. 10 fr.
DERRECAIX, V. La guerre moderne. 2^e partie: Tactique. Paris: Baudoin. 10 fr.
DU BOIS-REYMOND, E. Reden. 1. Folge. Literatur. Philosophie. Zeitgeschichte. Leipzig: Veit. 8 M.
HUGONNET, L. La Turquie inconnue: Roumélie, Bulgarie, Macédoine, Albanie. Paris: Frézin. 3 fr. 50 c.
MAHRENHOLTZ, R. Voltaire's Leben u. Werke. 2. Th. Voltaire in Auslande. (1759-78.) Oppeln: Franck. 5 M.
MORHAIN, C. L'Empire allemand: sa constitution, son administration. Paris: Berger-Levrault. 7 fr. 50 c.

- NEUCASTEL, E. Gambetta: sa vie et ses vues politiques. Paris: Cerf. 3 fr. 50 c.
PETIT DE JULLEVILLE, L. Les Comédiens de France au moyen âge. Paris: Cerf. 3 fr. 50 c.
PFEIFFER, F. X. Der goldene Schnitt u. dessen Erscheinungsformen in Mathematik, Natur u. Kunst. Augsburg: Huttler. 8 M.
SCHMIDT, E. Lessing. Geschichte seines Lebens u. seiner Schriften. 2. Bd. 1. Abth. Berlin: Weidmann. 5 M.

HISTORY, ETC.

- BEAUCHET, L. Histoire de l'organisation judiciaire en France. Époque française. Paris: Rousseau. 9 fr.
FAURIEL, C. Les derniers jours du Consulat, manuscrit inédit, p. p. L. Lalanne. Paris: Calmann Lévy. 7 fr. 50 c.
GIEFFROY, A. Recueil des Instructions données aux ambassadeurs et ministres de France, etc. Suède. Paris: Alcan. 20 fr.
HAMPEL, J. Der Goldfund v. Nagy-Szent-Miklós, sogenannter "Schatz d. Attila." Beitrag zur Kunstgeschichte der Völkerwanderungsperiode. Budapest: Kilián. 6 M.
HANIN, L. Histoire municipale de Versailles (1789-99). Paris: Cerf. 7 fr. 50 c.
JURIEN DE LA GRAVIERE. Les derniers jours de la marine à rames. Paris: Plon. 4 fr.
KAULKE, J. Correspondance politique d. MM. de Castillon et de Marillac, ambassadeurs de France en Angleterre (1697-42). Paris: Alcan. 15 fr.
MONTAUDO, O. Die Kultur Schwedens in vorchristlicher Zeit. Uebers. v. C. Appel. Berlin: Reimer. 6 M.
OESTREICH, H. Wegweiser durch die Literatur der Urkundensammlungen. 1. Thl. Berlin: Reimer. 12 M.
PUBLICATIONEN AUS DEN K. PREUSSISCHEN STAATSARCHIVEN. 25. Bd. Leipzig: Hirzel. 6 M.
VILLENUEVE, L. L'anarchie et le comité de salut public en 1793. Paris: Charavay. 3 fr. 50 c.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

- BOETTGER, O. Liste v. Reptilien u. Batrachiern aus Paraguay. Halle: Tausch. 1 M.
HASSELBERG, B. Zur Spectroskopie d. Stickstoffs. I. Untersuchungen üb. das Bandenspectrum. St. Petersburg. 3 M. 33 Pf.
SCHMIDT, F. Revision der ostbaltischen silurischen Trilobiten. 2. Abth. Acidaspiden u. Lichiden. St. Petersburg. 6 M. 70 Pf.

PHILOLOGY, ETC.

- AVETA. Die heiligen Bücher der Parsen. Hrgs. v. K. F. Geldner. I. Yasna. 2. Lfg. Stuttgart: Kohlhammer. 8 M.
BOETTLENGER, O. Sanskrit-Wörterbuch in kurzerer Fassung. 6. Thl. 1. Lfg. St. Petersburg. 4 M. 20 Pf.
DIELS, H. Ueb. die Berliner Fragmente der *Ἀθηναιῶν πολιτεία* d. Aristoteles. Berlin: Dümmler. 4 M.
DISSERTATIONES PHILOLOGICAE ARGENTORATENSES SELECTAE. Vol. 8. Strassburg: Trübner. 6 M.
LESKIEN, A. Untersuchungen üb. Quantität u. Betonung in den slavischen Sprachen. I. Die Quantität in Serbischen. Leipzig: Hirzel. 5 M.
MIKLOSICH, F. Dictionnaire abrégé de six langues slaves (russe, vieux-slave, bulgare, serbe, tchèque et polonais) ainsi que français et allemand. Wien: Braumüller. 30 M.
REINHARDT-OETINGER, C. v. Plautus. Spätere Bearbeitungen, plautinischer Lustspiele. Ein Beitrag zur vergleich. Literaturgeschichte. Leipzig: Friedreich. 18 M.
WEISSERFELS, O. Loci disputationis Horatianae ad discipulum usus. Berlin: Weidmann. 2 M. 40 Pf.
WINTER, H. De factis Verril Flacii ab Ovidio adhibitis. Berlin: Gaertner. 1 M. 20 Pf.
ZACHARIÄ, V. LINGENTHAL, E. Ueb. die Verfasser u. die Quellen d. (pseudo-)horatianischen Nomokanon in XIV Titeln. St. Petersburg. 1 M. 20 Pf.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SHAKSPERE'S "WONDROUS STRANGE SNOW."
3 St. George's Square, N.W.: Oct. 23, 1885.

Theseus, when reading and commenting on Philostrate's "briefe" of the sports which he might see on his wedding-eve, thus speaks of the play by Bottom's company:

"A tedious briefe Scene of young *Piramus* and his loue *Thisby*: very tragically mirth. Merry and tragicall? Tedious and briefe? That is, hot Ice and wondrous strange Snow. How shall we find the concord of this discord."

This "wondrous strange Snow" has puzzled the critics. Chancing this afternoon on a passage in one of Shakspeare's great authorities, Holinshed, in which "an artificial kind of snow, all strange, marvellous," is mentioned, I think the passage worth quoting. The chronicler says of "Albertus de Lasco, palatine of Siradia in Poland . . ." (on his visit to Oxford, A.D. 1583),

"he personally was present with his traine in the hall [of Christchurch], first at the plaing of a pleasant comede intituled *Rivaldes*; then at the setting out of a verie statelie tragedie named *Dido*,

wherein the queenes banket (with Eneas narration of the destruction of Troie) was liuelie described in a marchpaine patterne: there was also a goodlie sight of hunters with full crie of a kennell of hounds, Mercurie and Iris descending and ascending from and to an high place, the tempest wherein it hailed small confects, rained rosewater, and snow an artificial kind of snow, all strange, marvellous, and abundant" (Holinshed's *Chronicle*, vol. iii., p. 1355, col. 1, l. 64, &c.).

F. J. FURNIVALL.

THE TEXT OF THE ANCIENT LAWS OF IRELAND.

London: Nov. 9, 1885.

The following few passages, with translations, are offered as a contribution towards the right understanding of a certain order of Irish locutions which we meet occasionally in the text of the Brehon laws, and very often indeed in the great mass of romances that has come down to us from the earliest times. I allude to the use of the word *dia* (day) in conjunction with one or other of the remaining nouns of time—e.g., *laithie*, *laa*, *lá* (day), *nómad* (period of nine days), *mí* (month), *bliadain* (year).

1. In *The Battle of Cenn Abrat* (B. of Leinster, p. 288), Lugaid says, when challenging Eogan: "allasa i cind mis dotéis co comairsem i cind abrat"—i.e., "this day at a month's end come that we may meet in Cenn Abrat." The story continues: "ba fir sòn immorro. condreacat dia mis each cona shochraite . . ."—i.e., "and this came true, they encounter that day month, each with his gathering . . ."

2. In the *Contention of the Two Swineherds* (Eg. 1782), one of the most extraordinary of the tales prefatory to the *Táin Bó Cuailinge*: "bidta (or bitta? in any case, leg. *biadta*) dono la Fiachu on lo sin gus indla alaili dia bliadna ocus is Fiachnu feissin no tegid cona chuid do gach dia"—i.e., "now it [the reptile] was fed by Fiachna to that day year exactly, and Fiachna himself it was that used to take it its allowance each day." (The passage is too idiomatic to admit of a word for word English translation.)

3. In the account of Conachar mac Nessa (B. L. 106): "adcoabrastarside in mnái i. Ness do mnái dó. natho ol sisi condromrab a log i. rige mblíadna dom mac . . . tanic didiu cend na ree hisin dia bliadna"—i.e., "he [Fergus] coveted the woman Ness to wife for himself. Nay, said she, until I have value for it, viz., that my son shall reign for a year . . . then that period's end arrived that day year."

4. In *The Wooing of Emer by Cuchulainn* (Harl. 5280): "aspert iarom inti Aiffe ba torruch ocus mac nosberad si. cuirfedisai diu dia secht mblíadan co hErinn héa ol si ocus facaibse ainm ndou"—i.e., "afterwards Aiffe said that she was with child, and that it would be a son she should bear. Then I will send him to Ireland, said she, that day seven years, and do thou [Cuchulainn] leave a name for him [in the meantime]." (In this MS. *diu* = *didiu*, *passim*).

5. In the same tale: "dombour an ingen dit for Ruad ocus icfad fein a tinnscrai. Nato ol Cuchulainn. tiocedd dia bliadna imm deugaidse co hErinn mad ail ndi ocus fogepai messe ann"—i.e., "I will give thee the girl, said Ruad, and will myself pay her portion. Nay, said Cuchulainn, [but] let her come to Ireland after me this day year if she please, and she will find me there." Cuchulainn and his charioteer Laegh then return to Ireland, and the story proceeds thus: "then came a year's end. Laegh, said Cuchulainn, it was for this day that we trusted Ruad's daughter, only we know not the precise place."

6. In *The Battle of Moytura* (Harl. 5280): "scaraid iarom as in comairlie go comairsidis die teorú mblíadan," i.e., "then they broke up from that council [upon the understanding] that they should meet that day three years."

And, again, a little further on, "dia bliadh-nae," i.e., "that day year."

7. In *The Contention of the Swineherds* (Eg. 1782): "tet muccaídh Buidb fa thuaid dana dia dochumsum dia bliadna cona mucuib coeluib leis for mesrugud hi tirib Connacht," i.e., "so Bodhb's swineherd [in his turn] goes northward to visit him [the other swineherd] that day year, taking with him his lean swine to mast-feed upon the lands of Connacht." The version in the B. of L., which in other respects offers some variations, also reads *dia bliadna*.

8. In the imperfect version of *The Wooing of Emer* preserved in L. U., Conachar sends nine messengers into every province of Ireland to seek out a fitting mate for Cuchulainn: "tan-atar uli na techta dia bliadna ocus ní fuáratar ingin ba toga la coineulainn do tochmarc" (p. 122), i.e., "the messengers all returned that day year, but they had not found a young girl whom Cuchulainn might choose to woo."

9. In a tale of King David and a poor man (Eg. 92), the latter draws near to the hide upon which are displayed the riches which the king was, according to his wont at stated seasons, distributing to the poor. He does not consider the suppliant to be a proper object, and rejects his prayer for alms. The text runs on: "donic didiu dia bliadain . ní damsá a David ol se . . . is tu fil ann ol David . . . bidat marb dia tis doridisi. dia bliadain conaca chuire doridisi in fer cetna. tanacais ol David. tanac didiu ol se. nosbeirid amach dia crochad ol David," i.e., "now he came to him [David] that day year [again]. Give me somewhat, O David, said he . . . it is you that are there, said David . . . you shall die if you come again. that day year he [David] saw the same man approaching him again. You have come, said David. I have so, quoth he. Take him out to be hanged, said David."

10. In *The Wooing of Emer* (Harl. 5280): "orala iarom a muindteras dia in tress laei," and (Eg. 92) "orala iarom a muindteras dia an tres loi," i.e., "then, when their friendly intercourse was established, on the third day. . ."

11. In the same: "dombéurt iarom indingen comairli ndou Coineulainn dia in tres laei," i.e., "then the daughter [of Scuthach] gave Cuchulainn counsel on the third day." (Here Eg. 92 omits the article, and reads "dia tres lai," cf. "tres lae iarum ria samuin"—*Echtra Nero*, Eg. 1782—i.e., on the third day before All-hallowtide.)

12. In *Táin Bó Dartada* (Eg. 1782): "doroideth o Ailill ocus o Meidb condigsid dianacallum. Raguso dianagallum eim ol Eochaid dia samno," i.e., "a message was sent from Ailill and from Meidb that he should come and confer with them. I will go to confer with them, indeed, said Eochaid, on Allhallow's day."

13. There are several good examples of this usage in the Tripartite Life of St. Patrick. Of these it will suffice to quote one, viz., "dia laithi bratha," i.e., "at the day of judgment."

14. In *Echtra Nero* (Eg. 1,782): "No teged Nero co cuail connuid don dun gach dia. Atchid ass in dun each dia ar a chiunn dall ocus baccóch for a muin," i.e., "Nero used to take a bundle of faggots to the fort every day. He used every day to see already coming out of the fort a blind man with a cripple on his back" = every day he found a blind man, &c. (This is doubtless the *Echtra Nera* said by O'Curry to be lost, cf. his *MS. Materials*).

It will be observed that, with the exception of No. 9, the examples adduced show us *dia* with a dependent genitive. Dr. Windisch is perfectly right when he says of this word, "*wird besonders in gewissen Verbindungen gebraucht*," and his translations of *dia mis* and *dia teora nómad* are correct so far as this, that what is true of the universal is true of the particular. It would seem to be established, by Nos. 1 and 2 especially, that *dia*, when used

with any noun of time not synonymous with itself, strictly defines and limits the period in question. In conjunction with its synonyms *laithi*, *lae*, *lá* (day), it emphasises, as in Nos. 10, 11, 13. From the nature of the case it can do no more.

A full discussion of this word, both as to usage and declension, would lead me too far afield. Zeuss is vague and meagre on the subject. But it would be a pity to neglect an opportunity of studying Prof. Zimmer's method when he meets with an obstacle which his knowledge of Irish idiom does not enable him to surmount. It may be called the method of elimination. He simply abolishes the word or words which he does not understand, as good as calls the old scribes fools and rogues all round, and then quotes from some mysterious volume which he seems to have always at his elbow, and calls the *Codex Archetypus*. This codex he understands thoroughly. At p. 35 of the learned professor's *Keltische Studien* (part i.) he discusses a passage in *Séol Muice mhic Dáthó*, as printed by Dr. Windisch in his *Irische Texte*. In this passage occurs the abbreviation *diabl*. Dr. Windisch lengthens it out *dia bliadain* (cf. no. 9 supra), and Prof. Zimmer deals with it as thus (I translate): "In the *Codex Archetypus* . . . there stood *diall* or *dial*, with a mark of abbreviation; the abbreviating stroke was drawn somewhat far through the last l, so that the writer of [codex] y fancied he read *diabl*. We must resolve it *diallill*, i.e., to *Ailill* (King of Connacht. . .)."

This is the outcome of an octavo page in Prof. Zimmer's airiest style. Suffice it for the moment to say that the passage needs no emendation. That the scribes and Dr. Windisch are right, and the *Codex Archetypus* nowhere. What would be said of the English scholarship of a foreigner who could write some such critique as this: "Dr. N. N. finds in his MS. *this y* Julius Caesar invaded Britain; and, not knowing what to make of it, prints at a venture *this year Julius*, &c. In the *Codex Archetypus* there stood *h'* or *h''*; the light being bad, the scribe capsize the *h* and made *y* of it. Die Stelle lautet nun: *this here Julius Caesar invaded Britain*." STANDISH H. O'GRADY.

"CATCHPOLL" IN OLD ENGLISH.

Berlin, S.W., Kleinbeerenstr. 7: Nov. 2, 1885.

Prof. Kluge, in a valuable paper in the *Anglia*, viii. 450, drawing attention to *hæcewol* in the Addit. MS. 32,246, instead of *hæcevol* in Junius's copy of the lost Rubens MS. (cf. Anglo-Saxon and Old-English vocabularies, edd. Wright and Wülfker, 111, 9 "*Exactor hæcevol*"), adds: "Auch so bleibt mir das schwierige Wort unverständlich." But, one of the most frequent errors of Old-English scribes being the interchange of *w* and *p*, I think we must read *hæcepol* = Middle-English *cachepol*, Modern-English *catchpoll*, Old-French *chacipol*, Low-Latin *cacepollus*, &c. It is interesting to see that Ducange, explaining *cacepollus*, quotes "*exactor hæcevol*"; cf. also Schmid, *Gesetze der Angelsachsen*, p. 219, and E. Müller, *Etymologisches Wörterbuch*, s.v. "catchpoll."

JULIUS ZUPITZA.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, Nov. 16, 8 p.m. Royal Academy: Demonstration, "The Foot and Leg," by Prof. J. Marshall.

8 p.m. Aristotelian: "Kant's Metaphysic of Morals," by the Rev. E. P. Scrymgeour.
8.30 p.m. Geographical: Opening Address by the President, the Marquis of Lorne; "Exploration-Survey for a Railway Connexion between India, Siam, and China," by Mr. Holt S. Hallett.

TUESDAY, Nov. 17, 7.45 p.m. Statistical: Opening Address by the President, Sir Rawson W. Rawson, on "International Statistics, illustrated by Vital Statistics of Europe and of some of the United States of America."

8 p.m. Civil Engineers: "The Theory of the Indicator, and Errors in Indicator-Diagrams," by Prof. Osborne Reynolds; "Experiments on the Steam Engine Indicator," by Mr. A. W. Brightmore.

8.30 p.m. Zoological: "Notes on the Visceral Anatomy of Birds, Part I., the so-called Omentum," by Mr. F. E. Boddard; "The Origin of the Urinary Bladder," by Mr. John Bland Sutton; "The Rodent Genus *Heterocephalus*," by Mr. Oldfield Thomas.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 18, 8 p.m. Royal Academy: Demonstration, "The Knee and Thigh," by Prof. J. Marshall.

8 p.m. Society of Arts: Opening Address by the Chairman of Council, Sir Frederick Abel.

8 p.m. Geological: "Results of recent Researches in some Bone-caves in North Wales (Cae Gwyn and Fynnon Beuno)," by Dr. Henry Hicks; "Description of the Cranium of a new Species of *Erinaceus* from the Upper Miocene of Oeningen," and "The Occurrence of the Crocodilian Genus *Tamiasoma* in the Miocene of the Maltese Islands," by Mr. R. Lydekker; "Old Sea beaches at Teignmouth, Devon," by Mr. G. Wareing Ormerod.

THURSDAY, Nov. 19, 6 p.m. Cymmrodorion: Annual General Meeting.

8 p.m. Linnean: "The Perigianthe Girdle of the Echinidea," by Prof. P. M. Duncan; "Anatomy of *Sphaerotherium*," by Mr. Geo. C. Bourne; "Immature Stages of *Tegoceramus caepheiformis*," by Mr. A. D. Michael.

8 p.m. Chemical: "Aluminium -conols, III. Aluminium Orthocresylate and its Products of Decomposition by Heat," by Dr. Gladstone and Mr. Tribe; "The Constitution of Hydrated and Double Salts," by Mr. S. U. Pickering; "Some Vanadium Compounds," by Mr. J. T. Brierley.

FRIDAY, Nov. 20, 7.30 p.m. Civil Engineers: Students' Meeting: "Recent Researches in Friction," by Mr. J. Goodman.

8 p.m. Royal Academy: Demonstration, "The Trunk," I., by Prof. J. Marshall.

8 p.m. Philological: "Biblical Aramaic, with special reference to Hebrew," by the Rev. Dr. Th. Stenhouse; "The Oxford Edition of *The Battle of Ventry*," by Mr. Standish H. O'Grady.

SCIENCE.

Anecdota Oxoniensia. "Classical Series," Vol. I., Part 5. By R. Ellis. (Clarendon Press.)

MR. ELLIS has given us a valuable and interesting volume in his recent contribution to the series of "*Anecdota Oxoniensia*." First in order, and also in importance, comes a collation of the MS. of Ovid in the British Museum (Harleian MS. 2,610), which Mr. Ellis discovered and brought under the notice of scholars two years ago in the *Journal of Philology* (vol. xii.); then follow twenty-four Latin epigrams from Bodleian or other MSS.; and a series of Latin glosses on Apollinaris Sidonius from one of the Digby MSS. in the Bodleian.

The Harleian MS. of Ovid (containing *Met.* i., ii., and iii., 1-622) is declared to belong to the end of the tenth century and to be of German origin. It is written with remarkable accuracy in matters orthographical; thus we find *inposuit*, *inperfectus*, &c., with considerable regularity—a very good test. Among the new readings which it presents may be mentioned *ipse* (i. 664) for *inde*, which is awkward, and may have been caused by the *unde* of the next line:

"*ipse procul montis sublime cacumen Occupat, unde sedens partes speculatur in omnes.*"

In ii. 691 our MS. reads *tenuit* for *timuit*; and here, too, seems decidedly to have the advantage:

"*Hunc tenuit blandaque manu seduxit. . .*"

In i. 727 we have a curious reading: *circuit* for *terruit*, of which Mr. Ellis says, "*ex hoc uno elucet praestantia codicis*." The passage describes the persecution of Io by Argus:

"*profugam per totum terruit orbem.*"

Substituting *circuit*, Mr. Ellis apparently translates "dogged her steps over the whole world." Ovid no doubt is rather fond of the

verb *circueo* (cf. *Met.* vii. 258, *flagrantes circueit aras*); but I do not find that he uses the form *circui* as a perfect, and, besides, the reading is too obscure to command the general assent of editors. I prefer to regard it as an instance of careless reading on the part of the scribe.

A better test of the excellence of our MS. may be had in ii. 128 and 765, where it preserves the correct readings *volentes* and *belli* for *volantes* and *bello*, which are found even in the Codex Marcianus, a MS. formerly in the library of the monastery of St. Mark at Florence, now in the Laurentian.

Other passages worthy of note are ii. 183 (story of Phaeton), where we have

"Jam genus agnoscit [*i.e.*, agnosci] piget et valuisse rogando"

for

"Jam cognosse [*or* Jamque agnosce] genus piget," &c.

Here the passive seems undoubtedly better than the active; at the same time, the tense of *agnosci* and the change of subject at *valuisse* "*iniunct* scrupulum." In ii. 476, our MS. reads *adversam* for *aversam* (Codex Marcianus); either *adversam* or *aversa* (Burmans, Korn) should be read. In ii. 642, it is not impossible that the form *toto* (dative) should be retained, with our MS. and the large majority of others, for *toti* (cf. "Propertius Septem urbs alta iugis, toto quae praesidet orbi"). In i. 719 our MS. has *repem* for *rupem* ("maculat praeruptam sanguine rupem"). Mr. Ellis considers this to point to an original *sedem* or *sepe*. But neither *sedem* nor *sepe* appears the right word. Is not *repem* a mere error? Again, in i. 327, *ambo*, which occurs twice for *ambos*, is hardly supported by the usage of Ovid. But, on the whole, there can be no doubt that Mr. Ellis has brought to the light a MS. of which future editors of Ovid will have to take account. Is it too much to hope that he himself will some day give us an edition of the *Metamorphoses*, and will prove the interpreter for Ovid—"dignus ipsius saeculo, dignus nostro"—that he desiderates for Sidonius?

Of the unedited epigrams collected by Mr. Ellis, some are pretty and some are very obscure. As a specimen of the former may be quoted No. XIX.:

"Lapsus in aeternum fatali lege soporem,
Officii linquis taedia longa tui.
Ante tibi requiem nox inportuna negabat:
Nunc dormire simul nocte dieque potes:"

No. II. is, to the present writer, dark:

"Tela, Cupido, tene, quoniam non ille sed illa
Sustinet esse meus vel mea, tela tene.
Tela tene, quid amo quod amat non reapse? Sed
huius
Quod fugit, huius ero? non ero. Tela tene.
Tela tene, quia non teneo quod amo tenuisse.
An dixi, quod amo? non amo. Tela tene.
Tela tene, uel tange parem. ne feceris, imo
Dico tibi, sine, uel tange, Cupido, parem."

The Digby glosses on the Epistles of Sidonius are a valuable contribution to the study of a little known, but highly interesting author. The "glossator" quotes not only from Terence, Cicero, Vergil, Horace, Ovid, Lucan, Persius, Juvenal, Statius, Claudian, Jerome, Isidore, but also from Petronius, Macrobius, and Symmachus. The passages from the latter author are of special interest. The "glossator," as Mr. Ellis remarks, shows

great knowledge of Justinian law. Many of the glosses contain Middle English and Old French words. These must be later additions belonging, probably, to the time when the MS. was written (twelfth century). Such are "*cirrus* loc" (*i.e.*, lock of hair), "*poplites* hamme," "*fuligo* soth" (*i.e.*, soot). It is very curious how words of Romance origin and Old French spelling are interspersed side by side with English; e.g., "*tesseræ* dez" (dice), "*glutinium* glu" (glue), "*angor* destresse" (distress), "*domicilia .i. cilicia domus quod romanice est seuerunde*" (eaves).

Among the glosses of an important nature may be mentioned "*exoccupatus* magna occupatione." The writer declares *exoccupatus* to be a single word (*una dictio*); the sense which he ascribes to it does not appear in any dictionary. Du Cange gives as its equivalent *ab occupationibus liber, otiosus*. We should like to hear Prof. Nettleship's opinion about this word. In etymology the glosses in this volume are, of course, pre-scientific. We read with amusement, "*Moys enim aqua. Unde Moyses [Moses] dicitur aquaticus, quia de [sic] aqua fuit sublatus*"; or again, "*trabea, quasi ultra alias vestes beans et pacificans*"; "*casens, quasi carens sero*." Sometimes the philology of the writer is more happy, as in "*obscenus, a caeno quod est lutum*."

E. A. SONNENSCHNEIN.

A Comparative Dictionary of the Bihāri Language. By A. F. R. Hoernle and G. A. Grierson. (Trübner.)

THIS work, though as yet only in the initial stage, promises to be a valuable addition to our knowledge of the modern vernaculars of India. In the year 1880, Mr. Hoernle brought out a grammar of the Gaudian languages, with special reference to the Eastern dialect, one of the great branches of the so-called Hindi tongue. When it is remembered that Hindi, in all its varieties, covers the whole area of country between the Panjāb and Lower Bengal, and from the Himalayas to the Vindhya range, and that it is the mother tongue of seventy millions of people, it is not surprising that there should be a considerable number of dialects in so wide a space, and that as these impinge on cognate languages, such as Panjābi, Bangālī, and Oriyā in Bengal, or on Gujarātī and Marāthī in Bombay, there should be a closer assimilation to these tongues than to Hindi as spoken in the Doāb of the North-west Provinces. It may be added that Hindi, as we find it in Southern India, has become so impregnated with the construction of the Dravidian languages as to be hardly intelligible at first to a person accustomed to the purer tongues spoken in the North.

To our authors' work is attached a map showing the various stages of the Prākṛit from the earliest times down to the present day, from which it appears that the modern Gaudian may be classified as follows—viz., Western Gaudian, including Sindhi, Panjābi, Hindi and Gujarātī; Eastern Gaudian, including Bihāri, Bangālī, and Oriyā; Southern Gaudian or Marāthī; and Northern Gaudian or Naipālī. A closer investigation will probably show the existence of numerous dialects in these divisions, which are confessedly only

approximate; while in selecting the Bihāri language as the basis of their dictionary the authors specify no less than four dialects in this single division, viz., Bāiswāri, Bhojpūri, Magadhi, and Maithili. It is the vernacular of an extensive tract lying between Lakhnau (Lucknow) and Bhāgalpur, west and east, and between Bettia and Bilāspur, north and south, and comprising, therefore, many of the most fertile and densely-populated districts of the North-west Provinces and Lower Bengal. Many of the celebrated capitals of ancient and modern India are in this tract, while the flower of the old Sepoy army were Bāis and Bhojpūr Rājputs. It is evident, therefore, that our authors have done wisely in bestowing their attention on a vernacular which is of singular interest, while the close investigation which they have made of its literature has enabled them to lay before the public the very interesting and erudite work under notice. A list is given of all the native productions, printed or in MS., which form their authorities; and from this one may understand what a rich, but hitherto almost unknown, mine of literary wealth awaits those who will take the trouble to explore the much-neglected vernaculars of India. Some years ago Mr. Gover, of the Madras civil service, published a translation of the folk-songs of Southern India; and it may safely be said that a perusal of these popular ballads gives a better insight into native ideas and aspirations than a dozen years spent in official service in the country. In fact, the heart of the people is to be sought and found in the vernaculars of India; and any publication which enables us to understand Indians better, brings us more and more into sympathy with them, and confers a benefit on both races.

Part i. of the comparative dictionary before us extends only from the letter *a* to *ag'māni*, or forty pages; but it is enriched by numerous quotations from various writers, which add much to its value and give evidence of extensive research on the part of the authors. Students will find the introduction specially useful in clearing away the difficulties that arise in defining the peculiarities of a vernacular which differs considerably from what may be called orthodox Hindi. One of these is the transliteration of the short sounds of the vowels which, though always recognised in the Dravidian class of languages, has not hitherto received adequate attention in rendering the Prākṛit tongues into Roman characters. In the section devoted to explaining the terms *tatsama* and *tadbhava*, we find an interesting account of the gradual development of the various Prākṛit dialects, showing their origin and diffusion till they attained their present standard.

The work under review, of which we trust to see the completion, not only adds largely to our knowledge of one of the most widely spread of the vernaculars of India, but should act as an incentive to others to imitate the laudable example of Messrs. Hoernle and Grierson in other parts of the vast field of the languages of that country.

LEWIN B. BOWRING.

OBITUARY.

DR. FLIGHT.

WE regret to announce the death, on November 4, after a lingering illness, of Dr. Walter Flight, F.R.S., the well-known chemist and an old contributor to the ACADEMY on chemical subjects. He was born in 1841 at Winchester, and educated at Queenwood College, Hants, at Halle (under Kirchhoff), Heidelberg (under Bunsen), and Berlin (under Hoffmann). He entered the British Museum in 1867, and remained there until a few months ago, when he resigned, owing to ill-health. His work, which was characterised by great exactitude, was directed chiefly to the analysis of minerals. Of recent years he devoted himself especially to a study of the structure and composition of meteorites, the results of which have been published from time to time. He had almost completed a History of Meteorites, some part of which has already appeared in the *Geological Magazine*; and it is understood that arrangements have been made for its early publication under the supervision of his former colleagues. From 1874 onwards he served on the Luminous Meteors' Committee of the British Association, and contributed to its Reports. For several years he occupied the posts of Assistant Examiner in Chemistry to the London University, and Examiner in Chemistry for the War Department. His death at a comparatively early age is not only a loss to science, but leaves a serious gap in the small group of workers at Mineralogical Chemistry.

The following is a list of Dr. Flight's more important scientific papers:

1. "Ueber Darstellung und Zusammensetzung des jodsäuren Kalks" (*Halle Zeitschr.*, 1864).
2. "Ueber die thermoelectrische Spannung verschiedener Mineralien" (*Ann. Chem. Pharm.*, 1865, and *Phil. Mag.*, 1865).
3. "Ueber den chemischen Zusammensetzung einer Bactrischen Münze" (*Ann. Phys. Chem.*, 1870).
4. "Mineralogical Notices" [with Mr. Maskelyne] (*Chem. Soc. Journ.*, 1871 and 1872).
5. "On the Character of the Diamantiferous Rock of South Africa" [with Mr. Maskelyne] (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, 1874).
6. "An Examination of the Methods for effecting the Quantitative Separation of Iron Sesquioxide, Alumina, and Phosphoric Acid" (*Chem. Soc. Journ.*, 1875).
7. "Examination of Two New Amalgams and a Specimen of Native Gold" (*Phil. Mag.*, 1880).
8. "Report of an Examination of the Meteorites of Cranbourne in Australia, of Rowton in Shropshire, and of Middlesborough in Yorkshire" (*Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc.*, 1882).
9. "Contributions to our Knowledge of the Composition of Alloys and Metal Work, for the most part Ancient" (*Chem. Soc. Journ.*, 1882).
10. "Examination of Mr. A. Stephen Wilson's 'Seleotia' of *Phytophthora infestans*" [with Mr. George Murray] (*Journ. of Botany*, 1883).
11. "Examination of a Meteorite which fell on February 16, 1883, at Alfanello, in the District of Verolannova, in the Province of Brescia, Italy" (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1883).
12. "Two New Aluminous Mineral Species—Evigtokite and Liskeardite" (*Chem. Soc. Journ.*, 1883).

WE have also to record the death of Dr. William Carpenter, the eminent writer on physiology, and for twenty-two years registrar of London University. He died, from the results of an accident, on November 10, in the seventy-third year of his age.

SCIENCE NOTES.

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Society on November 30, Prof. Stokes will be proposed as president in succession to Prof. Huxley. The list of new members of council includes the names of Profs. Clifton, Dewar,

Bartholomew Price, Pritchard, and Schuster, Drs. Geikie and W. J. Russell, Admiral Sir Cooper Key, Mr. Norman Lockyer, and Gen. J. T. Walker.

THE first meeting of the present session of the Royal Geographical Society will be held on Monday next, November 16, when the opening address will be delivered by the President, the Marquis of Lorne; and a paper will be read by Mr. Holt S. Hallett on "An Exploration-Survey for a Railway Connection between India, Siam, and China."

THE first meeting of the present session of the Statistical Society will be held on Tuesday next, November 17, at the Royal School of Mines, when the president, Sir Rawson W. Rawson, will deliver an opening address on "International Statistics, illustrated by Vital Statistics of Europe and of some of the United States of America."

MR. WHITAKER, of the Geological Survey, has written a description of the two deep borings lately undertaken at Chatham in connexion with the dockyard extension works. One of these sinkings is of unusual interest to geologists, from the light it throws on the structure of the south-east of England. After passing through 682 feet of chalk, the borer pierced the Gault, which was found to be 193 feet thick, and then entered sandy-beds belonging to the Lower Greensand. These beds were only about 40 feet in thickness, and were found to repose directly on dark-blue clay, which, on the evidence of its fossils, is indisputably the Oxford clay. The remarkable point connected with this boring is the fact that the Weald clay and Hastings beds, which in the typical Weald area are about 2,000 feet thick, have so rapidly thinned out as to completely disappear at Chatham.

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

THE Clarendon Press has, at the instance of Dr. Furnivall, bought the copyright of the late Dr. Stratmann's Dictionary of the Old-English Language of the twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries, together with the author's MS. additions. The Press has appointed Mr. Henry Bradley to prepare a new and enlarged edition of the work, which will take its due place in the Clarendon Press Series of Dictionaries.

At Dr. Whitley Stokes's request, Mr. Standish H. O'Grady will read a paper on "The Oxford edition of *The Battle of Ventry* (*Cath Finn-trága*)" at the next meeting of the Philological Society, after Mr. Stenhouse's "Notes on Biblical Aramaic."

PROF. TERRIEN DE LACOUPERIE will deliver his second lecture at University College, on Tuesday next, November 17, at 4 p.m. The subject is "The Formation, Development, and Influence of the Chinese Language."

MR. S. A. KAPÁDÍÁ has been appointed Lecturer on Gujarati at University College, London.

THE second number of Dr. Geldner's edition of the *Avesta* has just appeared in two editions, with German and English notes respectively. It extends from Gátha 21 to Gátha 46, thus including the "Haptanghaiti." Among the numerous additional MSS. now collated for the first time is a very valuable Vendidad sâda from Persia, copied by Fredun Marzapân A.D. 1618, and derived from an archetype independent of the best MSS. hitherto known.

PROF. GUSTAV OPPERT, of Madras, has completed a second volume of his Catalogue of Sanskrit MSS. in private libraries in Southern India. It contains the titles of no less than 10,421 MSS., chiefly in the districts of Salem,

North Arcot, Chingleput, Tanjore, and the state of Mysore. Each MS. is catalogued under its title in both Devanagari and Roman character, with its subject-matter and author's name. At the end are three indexes—of titles, subjects, and authors.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ARISTOTELIAN.—(Monday, Oct. 26.)

SHADWORTH H. HODGSON, Esq., President, in the Chair. The opening address of the session was delivered by the President. The subject he selected was "Philosophy and Experience." Philosophy is the last in a series of three ways of regarding experience: the first being that of ordinary or common-sense thinking, and the second that of positive science. It therefore stands on a purely experiential basis, and differs from the two foregoing ways of thinking by simply analysing experience subjectively. In other words, it begins, not by assuming existence as something *per se notum*, but by asking what we mean when we assume it—what *Being* is. Philosophy, therefore, is (1) subjective; (2) analytic; and its method is to begin by asking the question *what of everything*, and then going on, when this is answered, to the further questions *how it comes* and *how it behaves*. The application of this method to experience results in distributing the whole consideration of it; that is, the whole of philosophy, under four heads or rubrics, 1st, the Distinction of Aspects; 2nd, the Analysis of Elements; 3rd, the Order of Real Conditioning; and 4th, the Constructive Branch of Philosophy, which last deals with the limits of Knowledge, the question of the Infinite, and the question of Religion. The entire results of positive science were shown to be capable of incorporation with philosophy, namely, under its third rubric; while, by means of its fourth rubric, philosophy is in a position to mediate between positive science and religion, which is based on man's *de facto* relation to the infinite. The question of method and logical articulation of philosophy on a purely experiential basis is the vital question for philosophy, and that which, before all other questions, presses itself on the consideration of a society formed for the systematic study of it.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.—(General Meeting, Monday, Oct. 26.)

The Rev. G. F. BROWNE, President, in the Chair.—In the course of some remarks made on taking the chair as President, Mr. Browne mentioned the loss the society had sustained in the death of Dr. Corrie, the late Master of Jesus College. Few, if any, had done more for the progress of the society in its earliest days than Dr. Corrie, and his interest in its welfare continued to the end. The first of the quarto series of the publications of the society was edited by him in 1840, "A Catalogue of the original library in St. Catherine's Hall, 1475," one of the many evidences of the interest he took in the college which owed so much to him.—The President exhibited and described a stone cross-head, presented to the Cambridge Museum by the Royal Architectural Museum, Westminster. In *Archæologia*, vol. xvii., p. 228, there is a letter from the Rev. T. Kerrich, Librarian of the University of Cambridge, dated March 29, 1813, describing a number of sculptured stones found in the course of demolishing Cambridge Castle, in 1810. They were found under part of the original ramparts, so that Mr. Kerrich took them to be at least as early as the erection of the castle by William I. The letter is accompanied by two plates, which show, besides some small stones, five complete stones like coffin-lids, and portions of two others, all ornamented with interlacing work. Mr. Cutts in his Manual of Sepulchral Slabs shows two of these stones, and states that one of them was in the Fitzwilliam Museum. His engraving, however, does not represent the stone now in the portico of the Fitzwilliam Museum, but merely reproduces that one of Mr. Kerrich's engravings which is most like it. The Fitzwilliam stone was found more recently, Mr. Way stated in the *Archæological Journal* (xii. 202; a woodcut is given on page 201), ten or twelve feet from the foundation of the castle, to the south. It lay outside the castle, in gravel, about six feet deep, and north and south. Mr.

Way gives as its date "about Xth century." It deserves a more protected position, especially now that the discovery of like stones under the early work at Peterborough has shown that the Cambridge stones are not isolated specimens in this district. One in particular of the stones shown by Mr. Kerrich must have been a remarkably handsome example. In the *Archæological Journal*, vol. xi., p. 70, there is a woodcut and a description of the head of a stone cross found at the same time with the stones described by Mr. Kerrich, *i.e.*, in 1810. It had been in the possession of the Camden Society, and at the date of the description in the *Journal*, 1854, it was in the Royal Architectural Museum, Westminster. The cross-head is about eighteen inches high, fourteen wide, and six thick. It is a simple but interesting and unusually perfect example of a "wheel-cross," probably the only one in all East Anglia. The upper limb and the two arms are of the same size; the lower limb expands into the shaft without any boundary line. The portion of the shaft which remains shows the commencement of simple interlacing bands, of the same character as those on the stone in the Fitzwilliam Museum. So far as style and material are concerned, there is no reason why this cross-head, with its shaft, and the stone in the Fitzwilliam Museum, or one of those shown in Mr. Kerrich's plates, should not have formed respectively the head-stone and body-stone of the grave of some East Anglian magnate a hundred or a hundred and fifty years before the Norman conquest. The account in the *Archæological Journal* states that the cross is plain on the back. That is not so, for the back, though somewhat damaged, is ornamented in the same way as the front. The edge, too, is ornamented, and in a very unusual manner, by a single band forming a rectangular scroll; this, perhaps, developed lower down the shaft into the key pattern so usual on the Anglian sculptured stones.—The Rev. W. F. Creney (vicar of St. Michael's, Norwich) then gave a lecture upon foreign monumental brasses. His remarks were illustrated by thirty magnificent rubbings, which were hung round the room, and excited universal admiration.

BROWNING SOCIETY.—(Friday, Oct. 31.)

DR. RICHARD GARNETT in the Chair.—A paper "On Browning's Development as Poet or Maker" was read by Mr. J. T. Nettleship. The writer began by remarking that the object of the paper was to look at Browning as an artist to whom, for the purposes of his art, morality and immorality, right and wrong, are of equal value, and assumed that the development of his genius as poet or maker began with *Pippa* and culminated in the *Ring and the Book*. His poetic development has taken place by an apparently capricious, but really ordered flux and reflux. His twofold nature, the poetic on one side and the spiritual and intellectual on the other, has been perpetually at war. But that flux and reflux was the necessary condition of his producing at all, and in this necessity he stands alone among his contemporaries. His natural knowledge of all organic life is the basis of his widely creative genius. From his love of animals to his love of men, and so to his delight in the spirit, the essence, of man, his course, dramatically speaking, has been upward. And he has found, as his life went on, the immense dramatic value, in his study of men and women, of the sublime truths and ideas whence have sprung the nobler religions of the world. But his personality has nothing to do with his art: it is in the manner alone, not in the matter, that his personality can be said to tinge his creations. His two most productive periods, in point of bulk, lay—(1) between 1840 and 1846; (2) between 1864 and 1868. His work may be divided from the point of view of poetic development as follows: (1) the three poems of his youth; (2) the seven pure dramas and many lyrics and romances; (3) various poems (named), showing great increase in concentrative poetic force, between the thirty-fifth and fifty-second years of his life; (4) the final triumph of dramatic psychological and analytic qualities, between the fifty-second and fifty-sixth years of his life—a triumph carried on at the same height of power to the present year. His power as objective poet has helped him to achieve his success as subjective or soul-painting poet. In the struggle or interaction between the objective and subjective powers his

genius has been helped or retarded through *Sordello* and *Pippa* to the *Blot in the 'Scutcheon* and *Luria*, published in 1846. The poems between 1846 and 1855 represent further development acting still according to the law of flux and reflux, and display an increased subjective dramatic faculty, which finds its fullest expression in the *Ring and the Book*. Browning has used his resources nobly, generously, and self-forgetting always. Every right reader of his poems gains that influx of vitality whence spring the strength of faith and purpose that go to make a single life and a great aim.—The Chairman, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Nettleship, expressed his high sense of the ability and suggestiveness of the paper, and went on to remark on the scanty traces of development he found in Browning's work, contrasting him in this respect with another great intellectual poet—Goethe—whose poems are distinctly divisible into epochs. To assign dates to Browning's poems from internal evidence would demand very subtle criticism indeed; and the criterion would more often be found in the style than in the spirit, at least after the first youthful lyrical efforts in more or less dramatic form—*Pauline* and *Paracelsus*. Even this distinction is often faint enough. The Chairman saw no decay in poetical or in intellectual power in the later works, only a disposition to be satisfied with a mode of presentment intelligible to himself instead of the earlier striving to be intelligible to the reader as well. Speaking roughly, and recognising many and even important qualifications, in the later utterances, the ideas were as powerful and as abundant, but written in shorthand instead of, as in the earlier, writ large. His variety must be sought not in his own spiritual or intellectual movement, but in the number of well-defined and picturesque human types suggested by his own observation or produced by his creative faculty, a number greatly exceeding those called into being by any metrical writer since Shakspeare.—Further discussion followed, in which Miss Hickey, Dr. Furnivall, Dr. Berdoe, W. Revell, and others, took part.

BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY.—(Tuesday, Nov. 3.)

CANON BEECHER, V.P., in the Chair.—Mr. Cope Whitehouse, with the aid of maps, charts, surveys, diagrams, and photographs, explained the course of the Bahr Jūsuf, which he has followed from Behnesa to the Birket el-Qerūn, and into the desert near Gharaq. He gave the Muhammadan traditions which attribute this canal and the redemption of the Fayoum to the Patriarch Joseph, and showed that the common derivation which attributes the name "Bahr Jūsuf" to Saladin (A.D. 1166) is plainly an error. If the name Beni-Suef dated from the time of the Muhammadan invasion, and was due to the tradition that this region was occupied by the sons of Joseph, then it might be connected with the *Σούφης* of Synellus, and with the alleged constructors of the Pyramids. Following this clue still farther back, Herodotus said that the Pyramids were called after the Shepherd Philition, who has been identified with the Hyksos. Thus an independent line of Greek evidence connects the Pentateuch with profane history, while the stream of tradition blends with the great branch of the Nile, which now waters the Arsinoite home. It is further corroborated by the geographical papyrus of Boulaq, and the well-known Egyptian word SaP, and the names of places in the Nomos Oxyrhynchites. This raises the whole question of the land of Goshen, as to which there is no agreement among scholars. Jablonski (circa 1760) identified Goshen with the Fayoum, relying in part upon St. Jerome. His treatise is of the highest critical value, although necessarily impaired by his scant knowledge of the physical conditions of the Nile Valley. The Egyptians, whether Jews, Copts or Muhammadans, put a Goshen near Belbis, extending from Heliopolis northward for a few miles. But their Exodus route is across the desert to the south of Cairo. The modern Arabs make the home of the tribe of Benjamin near Minieh, give to Ephraim or Ephratim the Nomos Aphrodito-polites and to Manasseh the Fayoum, with Gizeh as the birthplace of the Levite Moses. A map illustrating the local traditions, therefore, fixes the permanent residence of Joseph's Pharaoh near Heliopolis, east of the Red Sea (into which a west

wind blew the locusts), with a northern Jashān to which Jacob went down after he had seen Pharaoh, but assigns to this same King "Reian" the valley which has been shown to be a part of Lake Moeris. In answer to questions by Canon Beechey, M. Oppert, Rev. C. J. Ball, Mr. Wallis Budge and others, Mr. Cope Whitehouse said that he believed that these traditions were not only in entire harmony with the Pentateuch and profane history, but that Genesis xlviii. and xlix. have been rendered unintelligible by supposing that they refer to the condition of the tribes in Palestine. The prophecy of Jacob described the situation of the twelve tribes in Egypt immediately before the Exodus. The similes were in part the hieroglyphic names of the places where they lived. The order from north to south puts Reuben at Abu-Roash, intermingling with the natives, and losing his right of primogeniture. The religious war, provoked by Simeon and Levi, identified with the two pyramids of Gizeh, is the same to which Herodotus alluded. Chaeremon relates that Isis appeared in dreams to King Amenophis, and blamed him because her sanctuary had been demolished, and this brought about the expulsion of the Jews. The very word is preserved in the paronomasia of the Hebrew oracle. "For in their anger they slew a man (*Ish* = Isis) and in their self-will they houghed an ox (*Apis*)"—R.V. Judah, connected with the vineyards of the Fayoum by troops of asses, was described as the Sphinx, at whose feet the Arabs say the Exodus commenced. Zebulon dwelt at Zidon on the Nile, and, as Josephus says, carried on extensive commerce. Sokari, now Saqqara, retains the name of Issachar, who saw that Men-Nofer, or Memphis, was "a good resting-place" for the living and the dead, and exchanged his nomadic life for the shelter of its fortress. The town of Tān is represented by a serpent; the *serpent rugissant* of the myth of Horus. The verse in which Gad is described is remarkable for the frequent repetition of the root *gad*. Asher lived near Dashur; while Naph-tali was in fact compared to the groves of trees where the valley widens. Joseph is *ben porath*, not a fruitful bough, but the offspring of the river. His daughters (branches) are the two canals represented on the geographical papyrus of Boulaq. Lycopolis, or Assiut, is the wolf of Benjamin, who devoured the Nile in the East to divide it in the West. In answer to a question by M. Oppert, the speaker said that the interpretation was, he believed, wholly novel. He had observed the chief facts in 1881, and his opinion had since been strengthened by a large amount of corroborative evidence. On the other hand, there was nothing against it, except, in some minds, the support given to the antiquity of Genesis. The silence of the Targums and the Fathers, with the ambiguity of the LXX. and Vulgate, seemed to show that this interpretation had been lost. Mr. Cope Whitehouse offered it as a contribution to the exegesis of a part of the Old Testament which presented very great difficulty when considered as referring to any period after the tribe of Levi had become the acknowledged priests of the Israelites.

PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Friday, Nov. 6.)

THE REV. PROF. SKERT, President, in the Chair.—The second part of the society's *New English Dictionary*, edited by Dr. J. A. H. Murray, going from ANT to BATTEN, was laid on the table. Good progress with part iii. was also reported.—The president read his paper on "Some English Etymologies": first, eight Shakspeare words, *braid*, adjective, which stood for *braided*, "full of deceit, trick, fraud," the adjective being shortened as past participles in *ed* so often were in Early-English; *phoeze*, verb, "drive away," "put to flight," Anglo-Saxon *fesian*, *fesan*, verb, *fus* a, "prompt, quick"; *geek*, "a dupe," Dutch *geek*, "a fool" (Hexham); *lither*, "pestilent, stagnant," also applied to the air in Anglo-Saxon; *minx*, East-Friesic *minsk* (German *das Mensch*), "woman" (with a touch of contempt); *moy*, "a piece of money," probably French, from Portuguese *moeda*, Latin *moneta*; *scroyles*, "scurvy fellows, scabs" (French *escroquille*), "afflicted with scrofula"; *sennet* or *signate*, "a trumpet-call," Old-French *sinet*, *signet*, dim. of *signe*, Italian *segnetto*, English *signet*. Next, Christmas-box was an actual box in which gifts were collected, as Brande shows; and (an attendant spirit or familiar) was the Scotch

"caddie," French *cadet*; *casse*, French *aise*, was from Low-Latin *agius*, "at ease, at liberty," Italian *agio*, verb *agiare*; *fester* was French *fâtel*, *festre*, verb *fester*, from Latin *festula*; *gavial* (the crocodile of the Ganges), French *gavial*, Hindustani *ghariyal*, "crocodile"; *hobble-de-hoy*, French *hobbeau, hobrel*, "the hawk hobby, a mongrel," *de hoy* (*hodie*), "of to-day" (*abereau*, "a young minx, a little proud squall"); *hock-day* (*hoke-tide*), Anglo-Saxon *hock-dæg*, *hock* (Chaucer *hoke*), "mockery sport," from the rough sport of men and women at Easter; *inveigle*, from Wm. of Waddington's *enveugler*, a variant of French *aveugler*, Latin *ab-oculare*; *kraal*, from Portuguese and Sanskrit *coral*, "an enclosure"; *kelpie*, "a ghostly water-horse," (?) from Gaelic *colpach*, "a cow," &c.

FINE ART.

GREAT SALE of PICTURES, at reduced prices (Engravings, Chromos, and Olographs), handsomely framed. Every one about to purchase pictures should pay a visit. Very suitable for wedding and Christmas presents.—GEO. REES, 115, Strand, near Waterloo-bridge.

THE ART MAGAZINES.

THE Christmas number of the *Art Journal* has already appeared. Last year it was devoted to Sir Frederick Leighton, this year its subject is Sir John Millais. The career of this artist is ably described by Mr. Walter Armstrong, who compares his development with that of modern art itself, "for, after all, the progress from the 'Isabella' of 1849 to the 'Lady Betty Primrose' of 1885 is but the growth of four centuries writ small on a single brow." Not the least interesting section of the study is that devoted to Sir John's own views upon art, which are as full of knowledge and common-sense as one might expect. It is illustrated with steel engravings of "The Beefeater," "Chill October," and "The North-west Passage," and numerous woodcuts and "process" engravings of pictures, sketches, and book illustrations.

In *The Portfolio* Mr. F. G. Stephens writes with knowledge and sympathy about Mr. Burne Jones and his art. The article is illustrated by a photograph of "Venus's Looking-Glass." The same number contains a reproduction of a drawing, by Mr. H. Railton, of the Memorial Chapel at Windsor, and another of Mr. J. Pennell's brilliant pen-and-ink sketches. The subject of the latter is the porch of St. Mary's, Oxford. Mr. Loftie and Mr. Martin Conway continue their papers on "Windsor" and on "The Influence of the Mendicant Orders on the Revival of Art."

AMONG other good things, the *Magazine of Art* contains an article by Prof. Sidney Colvin on the Berlin Photographic Company's reproductions of pictures in the Brunswick Gallery, with an admirable example of them as a frontispiece for the new volume—the "Cascade with a Watchtower," by Jacob van Ruysdael. It also contains articles on "J. W. Waterhouse, A.R.A.," by Mr. J. Arthur Blaikie; "the Lower Medway," by David Hannay, well illustrated by Mr. Anthony Henley; and "A French Theatrical Museum," by Mr. Brander Matthews. The poem of the number is an admirable "Ballade of Dead Actors," by the Editor, powerfully illustrated by Mr. Elihu Vedder.

MR. E. J. POYNTER's well-known picture of "A Visit to Aesculapius" has been beautifully engraved by Mr. W. Ridgway for the *Art Journal*. In the current number Mr. H. Wallis continues his learned papers on "The Early Madonnas" of Raphael, and Miss Helen Zimmern commences a study of the life and work of Domenico Morelli, the famous Neapolitan artist. Mr. J. S. Hodson's article on "Modern Processes of Automatic Engraving" is another of the varied and able papers in the last part of this magazine.

THE *Gazette des Beaux Arts* contains a very interesting article, by M. Louis Gonse, upon Rembrandt's last years, apropos of the new museum at Amsterdam, the arrangements of which are severely criticised. The paper contains a long and important letter from M. E. Durand-Greville on the famous "Ronde de Nuit." This picture appears to have been cut down both at the top and sides, in order to fit between two pillars in a room in the Hotel de Ville, whence it was removed at the beginning of the last century. It has also been repainted, and was once a scene of broad daylight. Part of these assertions is based on the small copy of the picture in the National Gallery, which was painted by Gerrit Lundens from the original composition while in a perfect state. Some documents about to be published by MM. Bredius and Roever, throwing much light on the last years of Rembrandt, and on his relations with Hendrickje Stoffels (generally called Hendrickje Jaghers, and considered as Rembrandt's second wife) have also furnished M. Gonse with matter of great interest. It appears that the whole of the property saved from Rembrandt's creditors was held by this woman and Rembrandt's son Titus, and that they managed his affairs entirely, giving him board and lodging, and receiving the fruits of his labour. The establishment seems to have been a sort of Rembrandt company, at which his pictures, etchings, &c., were sold. At Hendrickje's death her share in the concern was left to her (and Rembrandt's) daughter Cornelia, of whom Rembrandt was appointed guardian under Hendrickje's will.

SEBASTIANO DEL PIOMBO IN A NEW LIGHT.

II.

BUT I want to show that, whatever might have been Sebastiano's position as a painter, his versatility probably reaches out in directions hitherto quite unsuspected. It is well known that he was a graphic letter writer. His correspondence with Michelangelo, Aretino, and others is excellent evidence of this. Nevertheless, the actual wording of his letters has seldom been given with accuracy. I shall give a letter preserved in the British Museum as an example. Versions of it have appeared frequently in print, but it has never been given exactly as it is in the original. I now give it with its Venetian spelling and peculiarities, immediately and literally from the MS. (Additional MSS. 23744). Hitherto these little matters have been smoothed over, or misunderstood, or converted into modern Italian.

"Compar carissimo mio gia molti zorni Receuj una ura ame gratissima la quale ui ringratio sumanete ui haute degnato acetarmi p compar uo. Et d le ceremonie d l donne a casa nra no fi uxano bafte ame mesiate compare. Et p queftaltra ui madere lagna. O gia molti zorni feci Batizar il putto. Et oli meffo nome luciano ch. e il nome d mio padre. Et d m' Domenico boinsegnj fe lui. . vora degnar effermi Compare mi fara singular apiacere p ch no uoglio fe no homini dabene p comparj.

"Oltra di questo uifo intender Come Jo ho finita la tauola. Et olla portata in pallazo. Et piu psto, e, piaciuta aogauno ch despiaciuta ccepto agliordinarij ma no fano ch dire ame bafte ch mo S. R. me ha detto ch Jo lo contentato piu di quello luj defideraaua. Et credo la mia tauola sia meglio dissegnata ch a, e, pani drazi ch son uenuti de fandra.

"Hora hauendo Jo facto dal canto mio apffo chl debito Jo ho ricercato di hauer el fine dl pagameto mio. Et mo S. R. mi ha detto ch lui uole ch secodo ch conueniffimo infiemj. Et co m' domenico uole ch uuj judichate quefta opa: ben ch p uenir psto a conclusione Jo la Remeteua in sua S. R. luj no uol p niete. Et oli mofttrato el conto del tutto. Et luj ha uoluto ch uelo mädj. (Et cufi uelo mädö). [This paragraph is inserted in the margin.] Et ch uedete el tutto. Et cufi

ui pgo fi maj me facefti apiacer uoglia te far quefto senza fufpicionc alcuna p ch mo S. R. Et me liberamete la remetemo in uuj. bafte ch haute uifo lopa pincipiata. Et, e, quarata figure in tutto senza quelle del paeft. Et in queftopa glie el quadro dl Cardinale ragone ch ua a quefto coto ch la vifto m'domenico. Et fa d ch grädeza glie.

"Jo no ue diro altro. Compar mio ui pgo expeditela psto inati ch mo S. R. fi parta da roma p ch a diruelo auuj fon al uerde Crifto fano ui Cofeui Recomendateme a m' Domenico. Et auuj miracomado p infinite uolte a di 29 December 1519.

"Vro Compar fidelliffimo

"Sebastiano picture in Roma."

The letter is indorsed across:

"Dno Michelangelo,
Sculptorj Jn Firenze."

I have given this letter *literatim* in order to point out how it differs from all versions hitherto given of it. The only really accurate reproduction was the facsimile published in 1836 by S. Woodburn, in the Fourth Catalogue of the Exhibition of Drawings collected by Sir Thomas Lawrence. It aims, of course, at perfect fidelity, thought it does not quite transmit the spirit of the original handwriting. I must explain that the italics are letters which have a stroke across the limb, which could not be given without special type. It simply means a contraction, as also does the mark "r".

The version generally most accredited is that of Bottari, which I shall therefore repeat, that the reader may judge for himself as to its accuracy. I say nothing of the liberty taken in partly translating it into modern Italian. In subject, the letter is extremely interesting, as it relates to three or four facts concerning the writer which bear upon the question of rivalry with Raffaello, and accordingly have been quoted as supporting the surreptitious designs theory. It further confirms Sebastiano's family name, and states that he had just finished his great picture of Lazarus, and—what is most important to my view of the unsubstantial character of the assertions so often made about Michaelangelo having assisted in its execution—it clearly shows that he had had no hand in it or he would not have needed any such description. It also implies that Raffaello's companion picture of the Transfiguration was not yet finished as, in fact, it was not, or the writer would not have compared his own Lazarus with the cartoons for the *arazzi* or tapestries just come from Flanders, which he thinks—in the drawing, mind—inferior to his own performance. It may be granted that Michelangelo did furnish Sebastiano with some hints for his picture, such as the somewhat dry and meagre sketch for the Lazarus preserved in the British Museum. But it is going much too far to say that the great draughtsman had any further share in this most masterly composition, admitted by all competent judges to be one of the finest and most important Italian paintings in the National collection.

But, to come to the transcription of the letter, which I translate freely. Compare

"Carissimo mio,—	"My dearest gossip (or
"Già molti giorni re-	"sponsor),—
cevei una vostra a mi	"It is now many days
gratissima la quale vi	since I rec'd your very
ringrazio sumamente,	acceptable letter, for
vi avete degnato accep-	which I thank you most
tarmi per compar vostro,	sincerely, and for having
et de le ceremonie de le	deigned to accept me
donne a casa nostra non	for your gossip, and, as
si usano. Basta a me	to the compliments of
che mi siate compare.	the ladies, they are not

* Grimm, in his *Life of M. Angelo*, ii. 491, says: "There is no proof existing that M.A. designedly supported Sebastiano as an adversary of Raphael's." Nor indeed is there, but there is this letter to show that M. Angelo had to be informed what the painting was like which the supporters of the rivalry theory assume that he assisted in producing. Anybody might see he had no hand in the actual painting.

E per quest'altra vi manderò lagna. Già molti giorni feci battezzare il putto, e gli ho messo per nome Luciano, che i il nome, di mio padre, e di Messer Domenico Boninsegni se lui vorrà degnare essermi compare, mi farà singular piacere perche non voglio se non uomini da bene per compari. Altra di questo, io fo intendere come io finito la travola ed holla portate in palazzo e più presto è piaciuta a ognuno che dispiaciuto, eccetto agli ordinari ma non sanno che dire.

"A me basta che M. S. Reverend. mi ha detto che io l'ho contentato più di quello lui desiderava. E credo la mia tavola sia meglio disegnata ch'è panni degli arazzi che son venuti di Fiandra. Ora avendo io fatto dal canto mio a presso che l' debito, io ho ricercato da avere tutto fine del pagamento mio. E Monsignor Signoria Reverendissima mi ha detto che lui vuole che secondo che convenissimo insieme. E con Messer Domenico vuole che voi giudichiate questa opera, benchè per presto a conclusione io la rimetteva in Sua S. Reverend. lui non vol per niente. E gli ho mostrato il conto del tutto. E lui a voluto che ve lo mandi ed così velo mando. E che vedete il tutto. E così vi prego se mai mi faceste a piacere, vogliate fare questo senza suspicione alcuna, per che Monsig. Signoria Rever. e me liberamente la rimettiamo in voi; basta che avete visto l'opera prencipiata ed è quaranta figure in tutto, senza quelle del paese. Ed in quest'gl'è il quadro del Cardinale Rangone che va a questo conto che ha visto Messer Domenico e sa di che grandezza gli è.

"Io non vi dirò altro Compar mio, vi prego a spedirmela presto inanzi che Monsig. Signoria facta da Roma, perchè a dirvelo a voi, son al verde. Cristo sano vi conservi. Raccomandatemi a Messer Domenico. Ed a voi mi raccomando per infinite volte. Roma, 26 December, 1510."

customary in our house. It is enough for me that you are my sponsor, and for this latter reason I will send you the lamb. It is now many days since I had the boy baptized, and I had him named Luciano, which is the name of my father; and, as regards M. Domenico Boninsegni, if he would consent to become sponsor for me, he would do me a special pleasure, for I want no other than men of consideration for sponsors. Besides this matter I must explain that I have finished the painting, and have taken it to the palace, and it was at once admired rather than otherwise by everybody, except by the usual faultfinders, but they do not know what to say.

"It is enough for me that His Reverence has told me that he is satisfied with it beyond what he expected. And I think my picture is better than the cartoons of the tapestries which are come from Flanders. Now, having done, for my own part, about what was due, I expected to have had a complete settlement of my account. And His Reverence has told me that he is willing to pay what you conjointly agree upon. And he wishes that you, together with M. Domenico, should judge this work, though, to expedite a settlement, I sent it to His Reverence, he would not decide at all. And I showed him the account in full. And he wished me to send it to you, and so I send it you. And that you should look it through, so I pray you, if you would ever do me a favour, that you will do this without any hesitation, because His Reverence freely gave us leave to send it to you. It was enough that you have seen the work begun; and there are forty figures in all, without counting those in the distance. And in this work is included the portrait of Cardinal Rangone that goes to this account, which Mr. Domenico has seen and knows what size it is.

"I will say no more to you, my gossip. I beg you to send it me soon, before His Reverence leaves Rome, because, to tell you the truth, I am completely done up. Christ keep you well. Commend me to Messer Domenico, and I commend myself to you everlastingly. Rome, 26 December, 1510."

J. W. BRADLEY.

SOME WINTER EXHIBITIONS.

ALTHOUGH there is no picture of very striking merit at the Winter Exhibition of the Nineteenth Century Art Society, it is full of accomplished and pleasant work. The place of honour is given (and on the whole deservedly) to a life-size figure of a little girl who has had a tiff with her cat, painted by Otto Leyde, R.S.A. It is executed with much vigour and freedom. Among the promising landscape painters are A. Fuller Maitland, who sends some bright breezy bits of land and sky (principally sky); and William Scott, one of whose little Venetian scenes, "Campanile of S. Felice, Venice," is very charming in light and colour. Henry Dawson, in his pictures of "Middleburgh," "Antwerp," and "An Old Man of War," shows himself a worthy son of his father, and an able continuer of Turner's tradition. Very delicate in its colour and rendering of atmosphere is "Cliffs near Lowestoft," by Edgar Wills; but this artist shows still more promise in a fine picture of sheep reposing in "Welcome Shade." A few of the other artists who have sent good pictures are J. H. Bradley, Edwin Ellis, G. Montbard, E. Aubrey Hunt, A. Williams, A.R.H.A., Marmaduke Langdale, Henry Zimmerman, Walter J. Shaw, E. Law, Arnold Heleke, Eliza Turk, A. Quinton, Harry Musgrave and O. Rickatson. There are several good water-colourers, but we can only mention T.B. Hardy's "Orontes entering Portsmouth Harbour," H. S. Take's "Coming Home" (a capital figure), E. S. Calvert's broad and clever "When Morning breaks," and Henry Murhman's "Boy on the Heath" (pastel).

To lovers of our National School of Water-colour Painting none of the numerous exhibitions now open will be more interesting than that at the little gallery of Messrs. J. Hogarth & Sons, 96 Mount Street, where a small, but very choice selection of early drawings are now hung. The good Dr. Monro, of the Adelphi and Bushey, might look down with pleasure on this little gathering, which consists mainly of the works of his protégés Girtin and Edridge, William Hunt, Copley Fielding and Cotman, not to mention Turner, the greatest of all, by whom there is one early drawing only. The collection is, perhaps, mainly remarkable for the number of drawings by Cotman, and a few by Bonington—all of them fine. For combined breadth and delicacy and pure sweet colour, nothing excels, the latter's superb drawing of Calais; and two small heath scenes, by the same artist, are remarkable for their luminous quality. Of G. Barret, who, as well as Bonington, excelled even Turner in transparency, there are three good examples—one, a classical landscape like Turner's "Isis," especially fine. There is also a drawing by Finch, his imitator, which is almost good enough for a Barret. Of the swift and sure brush of Girtin—who of all, perhaps, went straightest and surest to his goal—there are two fine examples; but in simplicity and breadth he scarcely excels Cotman, to whom, perhaps, on the whole, the palm of the exhibition falls. Of De Wint and Prout there are fine early broad examples, a Patrick Nasmyth, and two John Varleys; nor must we forget to mention one of John Crome's rare water-colours, glowing with sun. It would be interesting to learn the date of this drawing, for he was some years the senior of Turner, Girtin and Constable. By the latter there are two small water-colours more dexterous than usual, for this artist never seems to have attained mastery in this medium. Müller is, we think, the youngest of the group represented. His audacious handling and splendid gift of colour are shown in a study of trees and a heath scene with a stormy sky. David Cox is perhaps the most notable absentee from this group of humble-minded, but truly great and original artists, who founded our only

really English school, and may be said to have discovered and perfected a new system of colour based entirely upon the atmospheric harmonies of nature. This little gathering suffices to show us how they worked together, mostly friends and associates, beginning at the same point: at first the work of one may easily be mistaken for the work of another, but each gradually develops his own individuality, while the great figure of Turner stands outside watching and working and absorbing the merits of all, but never with all his greatness, ever quite obscuring any one of them.

At Messrs. Gladwell's, in Gracechurch Street, are to be seen some specimens of statuettes and reliefs composed of a new artificial substance made from marble dust, which lends itself to the imitation of various substances besides marble, and can be coated with metal so as to represent bronze. Messrs. Moeller and Dinkelacker, the manufacturers, have reproduced with great success many statues of antique and modern art, including the "Venus of Milo" and the "Laocoon." The famous statuette of "St. Francis," at Toledo, is a good example of their powers of imitating wood and ivory. Gatti's vigorous parti-coloured busts of "Algerians," and Foley's "Caractacus," the Naples antique "Narcissus," and several fine embossed shields exhibit the variety of their well-selected gallery. Messrs. Moeller and Dinkelacker have also some successful reproductions of the Tanagra figures at Berlin and elsewhere.

MESSRS. MANSELL & Co., of Oxford Street, have opened their usual exhibition of Christmas cards by the principal makers. Neatly arranged round a large room in glass cases against the walls may be seen all "the last new things," from the bunch of flowers with a seasonable text to beautifully coloured and gilded pictures, religious and secular. There is nothing, we think, prettier than Messrs. Hildesheimer's series of dainty young ladies with birds and kittens, relieved on a gold ground; but Messrs. Marcus Ward, Schipper, Prang, Delarue, Raphael Tuck & Co., and others have cards of variety and merit. Messrs. Mansell's own contributions are all photographic, and not the least pleasant. They include a number of very pretty heads, including one large series of much beauty, like drawings in sepia. They have also a set of moonlight views on a greenish ground, which are very effective. Also to be seen at Messrs. Mansell's are a large number of photographic reproductions of the popular Bartolozzi prints, which they have recently published. Whatever severer critics may say of the art of Angelica Kauffmann, Cipriani, and the other artists of the same class that delighted our great-grandfathers, there is no doubt about their grace and the charm of their decorative effect. These qualities, together with the attractive "sanguine" tint, are preserved in Messrs. Mansell's reproductions, which are sold, framed in the pretty old style, at a truly popular price.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

A COPY of Winterhalter's portrait of the Queen, painted in 1859, and now in Buckingham Palace, has been placed in the Lerwick Town Hall. The copy has been made by Mr. George H. Park, and is presented by Mr. W. Peterson, a Melbourne merchant. The inscription on the frame describes Queen Victoria as thirty-first in descent from the first Norse Jarl of Orkney, and mentions also her descent from King Harald Fairhair and St. Olaf.

ON November 4, Miss J. E. Harrison delivered, in the lecture theatre of the South Kensington Museum, the first of a course of six lectures on "Homeric Mythology in its Con-

nexion with Greek Vase Paintings." The subject of the first lecture was the Myth of the Judgment of Paris. The illustrations, which were very numerous and beautiful, were admirably managed by means of the oxyhydrogen light. The proceeds of these lectures are destined by Miss Harrison to the building fund for the British School of Archaeology at Athens. Among a distinguished audience of Hellenic scholars and artists who were present at the lecture were Mr. Newton, of the British Museum, Mr. Ernest Myers, Mr. Burne Jones, Mr. Boughton, and Mr. Walter Leaf, &c. The course will be continued on each following Wednesday at 5.15 p.m. On November 7 Miss Harrison also delivered the first of a course of three lectures on "The Parthenon Marbles," in the Archaic Room of the British Museum. We may add that Miss Harrison will be glad to see students who desire further help or advice at 45 Colville Gardens, W., on Thursday, November 19, from 4 to 6 p.m.

THE Royal Academy of Fine Arts at Berlin will hold a "Great Exhibition" from May to October next year. It will be under the patronage of the Emperor, and the Crown Prince will be its president. It will comprise painting, sculpture, architecture, and decorative arts. The payment of the transport by rail of all works exhibited (to and from the exhibition) is guaranteed by the Academy. All works intended for exhibition should be sent between March 1 and March 31 next. The Academy are also preparing a solemn celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the admission of Adolphe Menzel among its members.

AT a recent meeting of the Académie des Inscriptions, M. Homolle submitted a report upon the result of the archaeological exploration in the island of Delos carried out under his direction. The entire surface of the *temenos* of Apollo has been excavated, the circuit of the wall laid bare, the position of the gates and of the roads determined. About fifty fragments of sculpture have been discovered, several terra-cottas, and some pieces of bronze. One of the most interesting objects is a vase bearing the name of Iphicartides of Naxos. The inscriptions found number altogether about 224, entire or fragmentary. Some consist of more than 200 lines, and one has as many as 600. They date from all periods between the fifth and the first century B.C., but most of them from the third and second. Their contents throw much light upon the political constitution and the commerce of the Cyclades.

THE STAGE.

THE arrangements are now completed for the performance of "The Eumenides" at Cambridge. The play will be given altogether seven times, at different days and hours during the week ending Saturday, December 7. Applications for reserved tickets should be made to the secretary of the committee (J. W. Clark, Esq., Scroope House, Cambridge) not later than November 14, as they will be distributed on that date by ballot. An acting edition of the play has been prepared, with a translation by Mr. Verrall facing the Greek text; and the incidental music has been written by Mr. C. Villiers Stanford, who will himself conduct it. Both of these are published by Messrs. Macmillan and Bowes, of Cambridge. The scenery and proscenium have been painted by Mr. John O'Connor. In the cast of characters we notice several names that are familiar from their performance in "The Birds," with the notable addition of a lady for the part of Athena. There are two choruses, one of Furies, the other of Attendants, none of whom double their parts.

MUSIC.

RECENT CONCERTS.

MESSRS. JOHN BRINSMEAD & SONS commenced their scheme of orchestral concerts last Saturday evening at St. James's Hall. On Wednesday Herr Richter gave the last of his short autumn series, and so if they do their best to deserve success they will probably obtain it. It is essentially an English undertaking, and, if properly conducted, ought to be supported by the public. The band, led by Mr. J. T. Carrodus, is a splendid one. Mr. G. Mount wielded the bâton with considerable tact and energy. Hitherto our notices of this gentleman's conducting have certainly not been favourable, and we are pleased to be able to modify our opinion. The last piece in the programme—Liszt's "Rhapsodie Hongroise"—was given quite à la Richter. Justice, however, compels us to notice that nearly a quarter of the band were Richter men. Chevalier E. Bach played Beethoven's Concerto in E flat, but in a manner so inexact, so effeminate, and, at times, so jerky, that the result was anything but satisfactory. It is fair to mention that he was much applauded. Mr. E. Prout conducted his Birmingham symphony, and, at the close, received the honour of a double recall. The recent success of this work, both in Birmingham and London, accounts for, and justifies, its choice. Besides the pieces named, Mendelssohn's graceful overture, "Melusina," and the "Procession" movement from Moszkowski's symphonic poem, "Johanna d'Arc," was also given. Mr. Maas was the vocalist.

The Popular Concerts commenced last Monday evening. Sig. Piatti, in consequence of the accident to his arm, will not be able to take his accustomed place till after Christmas; but Herr Franz Néruda, well known in connection with Mr. Halle's recitals, proved an efficient substitute. Madame Norman Néruda led Beethoven's Rasoumowski Quartet in F (Op. 59, No. 1) with great skill, but not quite with her accustomed purity of intonation. M. V. de Pachmann, who did not play last season in London, made his first appearance. Raff's Giga con Variazioni, from the Suite in D minor (Op. 91), served to show the delicacy of his touch and the dexterity of his fingers, but it is not good enough for a "popular" programme. The public can now understand, appreciate, and applaud the sonatas of the great masters. We have not forgotten that last season the selection of pianoforte solos was often injudicious, and hope that as matters have perhaps come to the worst—with Raff's tawdry variations—that they will now mend. Madame Néruda's solos also were scarcely classical enough for a programme including one of Beethoven's great quartets and a small though fine one by Haydn. Both artists were loudly and deservedly applauded for their performances, but we regret to find that encores are still likely to be the fashion at these concerts. Mr. E. Lloyd sang songs by Wagner and Schubert: he was in excellent voice. Signor Romili did not accompany the "Preislied" as if he cared much about it.

The first of Novello's oratorio concerts was given last Tuesday evening, at St. James's Hall, and we are pleased to be able to record a brilliant success. The new choir, of about three hundred members, is made up of excellent material. The voices, especially of the ladies, are bright and tuneful. The chain of choruses in the second part of "The Rose of Sharon" was given with great vigour and precision. In some numbers of the work a little want of attention to the *pianos* and other marks of expression was noticeable, but one must not criticise too severely the first performance of a new choir. It has been well trained, and gives excellent promise for the future. Mr. Mac-

kenzie directed his work with great care. We shall, however, be better able to judge of his merits as conductor when he has to deal with other composers' works. His reception, both at the beginning and end of his oratorio, was most flattering. Of "The Rose of Sharon" itself we need not speak in detail: it may already be counted as one of the popular oratorios. The solo vocalists were Madame Albani, Madame Trebelli, and Messrs. Lloyd, Santley, and Tufnail. All were in first-rate voice, and did full justice to the music. The band was led by Mr. J. T. Carrodus.

M. V. de Pachmann is one of the few pianists who are able to fill St. James's Hall. The programme of his first recital last Wednesday afternoon commenced with Beethoven's Sonata in D minor. The individuality of a player may, and indeed must, be shown in interpreting the Bonn master, but too much is as bad as too little. In all three movements the pianist, by certain little tricks and affectations, prevented one from thoroughly enjoying the music. Weber's Rondo in E flat was given with wonderful neatness; but if M. de Pachmann prefers Weber tricked out to suit modern taste, let him announce the name of the arranger, or, rather, disarranger, of the piece. He played also Raff's prelude and fugue from the Suite in E minor. He ought, however, to have given the whole suite; for the prelude is not an introduction to the fugue, but to the other numbers which precede it. Henselt's "Si Oiseau j'étais" was so deliciously played that the audience asked for it over again. The Chopin selection—which included the Nocturne Op. 62, No. 2, the second Impromptu, a Valse, and Polonaise—formed, we need scarcely say, the special attraction of the afternoon. M. de Pachmann is a Chopin player *par excellence*. J. S. SHEDLOCK.

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